

The national economy appeared to shake off its doldrums last month as payroll employment increased by 255,000, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported Friday. The unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.9%.

The bureau reported that job gains occurred in professional and business services, health care, and financial activities, while employment in mining continued to drop.

The total number of unemployed was basically unchanged at 7.8 million, and along with the unemployment percentage has held fairly steady over the last 12 months, according to BLS.

Unemployment rates in July were little changed for several categories including adult men (4.6%), adult women (4.3%), teenagers (15.6%), Whites, (4.3%), Blacks (8.4%), Asians (3.8%), and Hispanics (5.4%), according to the latest statistics.

BLS said the number of persons unemployed less than 5 weeks decreased by 258,000. The number of long-term unemployed, or people who have been jobless for 27 weeks or more, was at 2 million. The bureau said that number was unchanged over the month and accounts for 26.6% of the unemployed.

Both the labor force participation rate (62.8%) and the employment-population ratio (59.7%) were unchanged over the month, BLS reported.

Attorney General: Mike DeWine joined 48 other AGs this week in announcing a \$125 million settlement with Cephalon and affiliated companies over allegations they "engaged in anticompetitive conduct that delayed the market entry of generic versions of Provigil, a prescription drug used to promote wakefulness and treat sleep disorders."

Ohio's recovery is expected to be about \$4 million, including an estimated \$1.57 million for Ohio consumers who bought Provigil between 2006 and 2012, \$1.43 million for state entities that bought Provigil, and \$1 million to the Ohio Attorney General's Office, Mr. DeWine reported.

"We worked hard to secure millions of dollars for Ohio in this case," he said in a statement. "This is money that otherwise would not have been available for Ohio consumers or for the state. We hope the recovery will help individual Ohioans and agencies that serve them."

In a separate release, Mr. DeWine said he was joining Walgreens executives and Rep. Jeff Rezabek (R-Clayton) this week to unveil new safe medication disposal kiosks to be placed at 18 of the pharmacies statewide.

Consumers can use the drop boxes to dispose of unneeded, unwanted, or expired prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications, he said.

State Auditor: Dave Yost announced that Mark Township in Defiance County did not pay the Village of Sherwood for fire and emergency medical services for a year, resulting in findings for recovery of \$7,300, out of which \$900 has been paid to the village.

"If you rely on another community for emergency services, you need to pay the bills," Mr. Yost said in a release. "In addition to the finding for recovery, Mark Township owes the Village of Sherwood gratitude for its continued services despite a lack of payment."

The auditor said agreements between the neighboring communities required the township to pay the village a flat rate fee of \$350 per run for emergency services provided from April 2012-March 2015 and \$300 per run from April 2015 through March 2018. An audit found the township discontinued its payments to the village in September 2014, but the village continued to provide it with emergency medical services on behalf of the township.

OhioLINK: The state's academic library consortium announced the launch of an upgraded Electronic Journal Center designed to give students, faculty and researchers enhanced access to research journals.

The EJC database contains 26 million full-text articles from more than 11,000 academic journals from scholarly publishers, academic societies and university presses, OhioLINK reported. The project was made possible through a \$1 million capital appropriation through the Department of Higher Education's Technology Initiatives.

The consortium called the upgrade "a significant enhancement in infrastructure and interface, providing new features, such as full-text searching, multiple saved article lists and access to PDFs directly from the search results."

"I commend OhioLINK for taking an already important tool and making it even more effective to meet the research needs of thousands of Ohioans," Chancellor John Carey said.

OhioLINK Executive Director Gwen Evans added, "The EJC upgrade represents a months-long project for the OhioLINK and OH-TECH staff aimed at providing unrivaled research information capabilities. The EJC is just one of many resources offered by OhioLINK that serves as the raw material for inspiration and invention on Ohio's higher education campuses and advanced research facilities."

Development Services: The agency this week announced that more than \$1 million was awarded to seven communities to clean up abandoned gas stations.

The projects were evaluated on the impact cleanup will have on the environment, the community, and the local economy, DSA reported.

"Bringing new life to high traffic corners adds to the success hometown businesses and local communities," agency Director David Goodman said.

Political subdivisions including county land banks are eligible for the Abandoned Gas Station Cleanup Program. Applications will be available online at for the second competitive funding round starting Monday and are due to the DSA by close of business on Friday, Sept. 9. Non-competitive Fast Track grants are awarded on an on-going basis, the agency said.

Natural Resources: A 20-person Ohio Wildfire Crew was recently deployed to assist in fighting multiple wildfires that are currently burning in the western United States, ODNR reported.

It's the first Ohio fire-fighting crew to be requested for the region this season, which usually runs July-September. The crew is expected to assist with large wildfires in Wyoming, the agency said.

"Ohio's wildfire crews are well-prepared for these dangerous assignments and excel at working to help protect people and property from these fires," said Robert Boyles, Ohio's state forester. "We will continue offering the support of Ohio's firefighters as long as they are needed to assist in controlling and extinguishing these blazes."

ODNR this week also announced it would hold a dock lottery for rentals available at six state park marinas and a duck blind lottery on Aug. 20.

Disability Rights Ohio: The advocacy group unveiled its new website this week.

DRO said the improvements will help visitors: learn more about the Ohioans it helps in client stories; find the information and tools needed to advocate for the rights of people with disabilities in a resource center; get in touch through a new online intake form; and join the group in its mission through a donate page.

Ohio Business: Presidential Politics Influences Scripps Earnings; Forest City, Andersons, Cooper Tire, Others Post Quarterly Results

The ebbs and flows of this year's relatively unique presidential elections are reflected in the earnings report released Friday by Cincinnati-based Scripps, which said revenues from continuing operations in the second quarter were \$228 million, up 15% from last year.

Net income was \$11.5 million or 14 cents per share, compared to a net loss of \$13 million, or 15 cents per share, in the prior year period, the company reported.

Retransmission revenue was up 46% in the quarter to \$53.4 million, according to Scripps. Election-year TV political advertising was \$8.4 million in the second quarter, with candidate and political action committee spending focused in the key Scripps states of Ohio, Florida, Colorado, Nevada and Wisconsin.

The presidential race, which is expected to generate 30% of Scripps's election-year advertising revenue, has influenced earnings so far this year, Chairman, President and CEO Rich Boehne said in comments released with the company's earnings report.

"We are now halfway through a political election year that is different and historic in many ways. It's in defining moments like these when our local television platforms demonstrate their greatest value, both through skilled storytelling and through the delivery of the candidates' own messaging," Mr. Boehne stated.

"More than 80% of our potential political revenue is still ahead of us over the next 13 weeks - with about half of our total political ad revenue projected in the fourth quarter. The second quarter started more slowly than we had anticipated, with the Democrats' Clinton-Sanders race running out longer than most people expected and delaying the start to general-election spending. Republican Donald Trump held back spending while the Democrats duked it out. We expect a more normal pace of spending to set in now that we are through the party conventions, the traditional start of the heavy spending season."

Forest City: The Cleveland-based realty trust firm reported revenues of \$226 million for the quarter compared to \$232.7 million for the prior year period. Revenues over the last six months were \$452.2 million, compared with \$441.0 million for the six months ended June 30, 2015.

The company's listed net earnings for the quarter of \$26.6 million, or \$0.10 per share, compared with net earnings of \$303.8 million, or \$1.18 per share, for the second quarter of 2015. For the six months that ended June 30, Forest City listed \$270.6 million in net earnings, or \$1.02 per share, compared to \$249.5 million, or \$1.04 per share, during the prior year's period.

The Andersons: The company reported second-quarter net income of \$14.4 million, or \$0.51 per diluted share as well as revenues of \$1.1 billion.

Those totals are a slight decrease from last year's second quarter when net income was \$31.1 million, or \$1.09 per diluted share, and revenue was \$1.2 billion, The Andersons said.

For the first six months of the year, the company posted a net loss of \$273,000, or \$0.01 per diluted share.

"The first half of the year was challenging, in line with our expectations, due to the poor crop last fall in the Eastern Corn Belt," said CEO Pat Bowe.

Atricure: The Mason-based atrial fibrillation treatment company reported second-quarter revenue of \$39.7 million, an increase of \$7.1 million or 21.8% compared to second quarter 2015 revenue.

Gross profit during the quarter was \$28.8 million compared to \$23.1 million for the second quarter of 2015, according to the company. Gross margin increased to 72.6%, compared to 70.9% last year.

Commercial Vehicle Group: Second-quarter revenues dropped 18.1% to \$178.3 million compared to the previous year, the company reported.

"The decrease in revenues period-over-period is driven primarily by the retreat of North American heavy-duty truck production volumes from near historically high levels in 2015 and the continued softness in the global construction and agriculture markets we serve," according to a company release. Foreign currency translation also negatively impacted revenues by \$1.5 million.

Cooper Tire: Net sales were down slightly in the second quarter to \$740 million, the company reported Thursday. However, net income of \$71 million and operating profits of \$110 million increased over the year.

Stoneridge: The Warren Company reported second-quarter sales of \$186.9 million, a 13% increase compared to the previous year's quarter. It also saw a 64% increase in EPS from continuing operations to \$0.41 and an 83.8% increase in operating income to \$13.6 million.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Wednesday, September 7

Petroleum Underground Storage Tank Release Compensation Board, 50 West Broad Street - Suite 1500, Columbus, 10 a.m.

Supplemental Event Planner

Monday, August 8

Ohio Casino Control Commission to release the monthly casino revenue report for July, 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 1

Sen. Gayle Manning (R-N. Ridgeville) fundraiser, Willoway Nursery, 4535 Center Road (Route 83), Avon, 5:30 p.m., (\$500 Lilac Sponsor includes 6 tickets | \$400 Hydrangea Sponsor includes 4 tickets | \$200 Rose to Committee to Elect Manning)


Sunday, September 18

Sen. Cliff Hite (R-Findlay) golf outing fundraiser, Eagle Rock, 211 Carpenter Road, Defiance, 12 p.m., (12:00pm Noon, Lunch provided, 1:00pm Shotgun Start; \$1500 Eagle Sponsor - Includes team, food, drink tickets, green sign and tee sign; \$750 Birdie Sponsor - Includes team, food, and tee sign; \$400 per Team | \$100 per Golfer | \$100 Tee Sponsor Sign | \$100 Green Sponsor Sign to The Committee to Elect Cliff Hite)

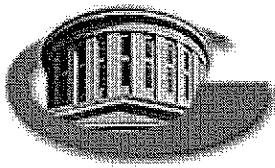
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Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Daily Activity Planner for Saturday, August 6-Monday, August 8

Legislative Committees

No legislative committees scheduled.

Agency Calendar

Sunday, August 7

Expositions Commission, Cardinal Hall, Buckeye Rm., 717 E. 17th Ave., Columbus, 10 a.m.

Monday, August 8

Board of Building Appeals, Ohio Department of Transportation, District Three Office, Conference Room, 906 Clark Avenue, Ashland, 8:30 a.m.

Controlling Board, North Hearing Rm., Statehouse, Columbus, 1:30 p.m.

Event Planner

Sunday, August 7

End of Ohio State Fair

Lisa Schacht (R-Candidate 20th House District) fundraiser, Schacht Family Farm, 5950 Shannon Road, Canal Winchester, 6 p.m., (Special Guests Secretary of State Jon Husted and Ohio Senator Kevin Bacon. Host: \$300; Host Committee: \$200; Supporter: \$100; Attendee: \$25/person to Citizens for Lisa Schacht)

Monday, August 8

National Conference of State Legislatures legislative summit, Chicago

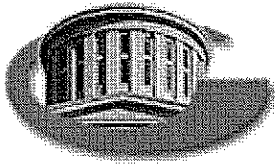
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Event Planner

Sunday, August 7

End of Ohio State Fair

Lisa Schacht (R-Candidate 20th House District) fundraiser, Schacht Family Farm, 5950 Shannon Road, Canal Winchester, 6 p.m., (Special Guests Secretary of State Jon Husted and Ohio Senator Kevin Bacon. Host: \$300; Host Committee: \$200; Supporter: \$100; Attendee: \$25/person to Citizens for Lisa Schacht)

Monday, August 8

National Conference of State Legislatures legislative summit, Chicago

Ohio Casino Control Commission to release the monthly casino revenue report for July, 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, August 9

National Conference of State Legislatures legislative summit, Chicago

Wednesday, August 10

National Conference of State Legislatures legislative summit, Chicago

Wes Goodman (R-Candidate 87th House District) fundraiser, Ringside, 19 N. Pearl Street, Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$200 to Friends of Wes Goodman)

Thursday, August 11

National Conference of State Legislatures legislative summit, Chicago

Ohio Charter School Summit, Hyatt Regency Columbus, 350 North High Street, Columbus, 9 a.m.

Republican Senate Campaign Committee target shooting fundraiser, AimHi Family Firearms Center, 10299 Johnstown Rd., New Albany, 9:30 a.m., (Featuring Senator Bob Peterson, Senate Candidate Frank Hoagland and former Navy Seals. 9:30am Check in and breakfast; 10:00-12:00pm Safety Class and Target Shooting; 12:00pm Lunch. \$1,000 Event Host; \$500 Event Sponsor; \$250 Individual; \$100 Lunch to Republican Senate Campaign Committee)

Friday, August 12

Ohio Charter School Summit, Hyatt Regency Columbus, 350 North High Street, Columbus, 8:30 a.m.

Ohio House Democratic Caucus Golf Outing fundraiser, Foxfire Golf Club, 10799 OH-104, Lockbourne, 9 a.m., (Shotgun start at 9:00a.m.)

Rep. Dorothy Pelanda (R-Marysville) Golf Outing fundraiser, Darby Creek Golf Course, 19300 Orchard Road, Marysville, 11:30 a.m., (11:30am Registration and Lunch; 12:30pm Shotgun Start; 5:00pm Reception with Special Guest Attorney General Mike DeWine. Lunch/Golf/Reception: \$80/person; Reception Only: \$40/person; Hole Sponsor: \$100 to Pelanda for State Representative)

Summer Fridays at the Statehouse concert, West Steps, Statehouse, Columbus, 12 p.m., (Jimmy's Last Chance)

Monday, August 15

Rep. Mike Henne (R-Clayton) golf outing fundraiser, Miami Valley Golf Club, 3311 Salem Avenue, Dayton, 12 p.m., (12:00pm Check-In and Lunch; 1:00pm Shotgun Start; Buffet Dinner after Play. Event Sponsor: \$1,000; Foursome: \$500; Individual Golfer and Hole Sponsor: \$350; Hole Sponsor: \$250; Individual Golfer: \$150; Dinner Ticket Only: \$75 to Friends of Mike Henne)

Tuesday, August 16

Wes Goodman (R-Candidate 87th House District) fundraiser, Cedar Creek Barn, 7723 State Route 42, Mansfield, 5:30 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$200; Couple: \$50; Individual: \$25 to Friends of Wes Goodman)

Thursday, August 18

Sen. Bill Coley (R-Middletown) fundraiser, Miller Coors Brewery, 2525 Wayne Madison Road, Trenton, 5 p.m., (Sponsor \$1,000; Host \$500; Individual \$250 to Friends of Bill Coley)

Friday, August 19

Rep. Wes Retherford (R-Hamilton) golf outing fundraiser, Walden Ponds Golf Course, 6090 Golf Club Ln., Hamilton, 10 a.m., (10 am registration; 11 am shotgun start)

Summer Fridays at the Statehouse concert, West Steps, Statehouse, Columbus, 12 p.m., (Zach Whitney & Rosin Jaw)

Tuesday, August 23

Senate President Keith Faber (R-Celina) and Republican Senate Campaign Committee golf outing fundraiser, Double Eagle Golf Club, 6025 Cheshire Road, Galena, 9 a.m., (9:00am Breakfast Event; 10:00am Tee Times Begin. Individual Golfer: \$2,500; Event Sponsor: \$5,000; Event Host: \$10,000 to RSCC/Friends of Faber)

~~Canceled: Rep. Terry Johnson (R-McDermott) fundraiser~~, Athletic Club of Columbus, 136 E. Broad Street, Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Chair: \$2,500; Sponsor: \$1,000; Patron: \$500; Guest: \$350 to Terry Johnson for State Rep)

Wednesday, August 24

Sen. Troy Balderson (R-Zanesville) & Rep. Stephanie Kunze (R-Candidate 16th Senate District) golf outing fundraiser, Country Club at Muirfield Village, 8715 Muirfield Drive, Dublin, 8:30 a.m., (\$1,000 Total Contribution. Golfers pay for their own golf. Please make separate checks for \$500 each payable to Troy Balderson for State Senator & Citizens for Stephanie Kunze)

Thursday, August 25

Sen. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) fundraiser, Western Hills Country Club, 5780 Cleves Warsaw Pike, Cincinnati, 5:30 p.m., (\$1000 Event Host | \$500 Event Sponsor | \$175 per Couple | \$125 per Person to Seitz for Ohio)

Rep. Louis Terhar (R-Cincinnati) fundraiser, Scioto Country Club, 2196 Riverside Drive, Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (\$2,500 Title Sponsor, \$1,000 Event Sponsor, \$500 Host, \$350 Attendee to Friends of Lou Terhar)

Friday, August 26

Summer Fridays at the Statehouse concert, West Steps, Statehouse, Columbus, 12 p.m., (Act to be announced)

Thursday, September 1

Lobbyists/Employers can begin filing May-August 2016 Activity & Expenditure Reports

Hamilton County Republican State Legislators golf outing fundraiser, Glenview Golf Course, 10965 Springfield Pike, Cincinnati, 10 a.m., (10:00am Registration, 11:00 Shotgun Start, Lunch on the turn. \$300 Hole Sponsor - includes 2 signs with your choice of recognition, one of the golf course, one at the shelter house; \$175 Per Golfer - includes lunch and reception. Make checks payable to GOP Golf PAC)

Sen. Gayle Manning (R-N. Ridgeville) fundraiser, Willoway Nursery, 4535 Center Road (Route 83), Avon, 5:30 p.m., (\$500 Lilac Sponsor includes 6 tickets | \$400 Hydrangea Sponsor includes 4 tickets | \$200 Rose to Committee to Elect Manning)

Tuesday, September 6

Matt Huffman (R-Candidate 12th Senate District) golf outing fundraiser, Hidden Creek Golf Club, 6245 Sugar Creek Rd., Lima, 9 a.m., (Registration 9:00-10:00am, Shotgun Start 10:00am \$1,000 Event Sponsor | \$200 Tee Sponsor | \$100 per Golfer to Matt Huffman for Ohio)

Rep. Gary Scherer (R- Circleville) golf outing fundraiser, Pinnacle Golf Club, 1500 Pinnacle Club Drive, Grove City, 11 a.m., (11:00am Shotgun and Lunch; 12:00pm Shotgun Start. Event Sponsor: \$1,500; Food/Beverage Sponsor: \$750; Foursome: \$400; Hole Sponsor: \$200; Individual Golfer: \$125 to Friends of Gary Scherer)

Rep. Ron Young (R-Leroy Township) Winery Reception fundraiser, Debonne Vineyards, 7840 Doty Road, Madison, 5:30 p.m., (with Special Guest Lieutenant Governor Mary Taylor. Chair: \$2,500; Host: \$1,000; Sponsor: \$500 to Friends of Ron Young)

Wednesday, September 7

Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) & Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) golf outing fundraiser, County Club at Muirfield Village, 8715 Muirfield Drive, Dublin, 8:30 a.m., (\$1,000 Total Contribution. Golfers pay for their own golf. Please make separate checks for \$500 each payable to Citizens for Bill Beagle & Peterson for Good Government)

Friday, September 9

Rep. Nathan Manning (R- North Ridgeville) & Sen. Gayle Manning (R-N. Ridgeville) golf outing fundraiser, Bob-O-Link, 4141 Center Road, Avon, 9:30 a.m., (9:30-10:30am Breakfast and Registration, 10:30am Shotgun Start; \$1,500 Eagle Sponsor; \$750 Birdie Sponsor \$400 Team | \$200 Tee Sponsor | \$125 Individual | \$50 for Reception Only to Committee to Elect Manning for Gayle and/or Manning for Ohio for Nathan)

Monday, September 12

Sen. Bob Hackett (R-London) golf outing fundraiser, Beaver Creek Golf Club, 2800 New Germany Trebein Rd., Beaver Creek, 9 a.m., (9:00 AM Registration, 10:00 AM Shotgun. \$1,000, \$700, \$500, \$250, \$150, \$100 or \$85 Hackett for Ohio)

Tuesday, September 13

RSCC golf outing and pig roast fundraiser, Jefferson Golf and Country Club, 7271 Jefferson Meadows Drive, Blacklick, 12 p.m., (12:00pm Golf begins, 4:00pm Pig Roast; \$2,500 Event Host | \$1,000 Event Sponsor | \$750 Golf & Pig Roast | \$500 Golf to Republican Senate Campaign Committee)

Rep. Steve Hambley (R-Brunswick) and Rep. Doug Green (R-Mt. Orab) fundraiser, Ringside, 19 N. Pearl Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$350 to Hambley for House Committee and/or Committee to Elect Doug Green)

Wednesday, September 14

Rep. Jim Butler (R-Oakwood) and Rep. Margy Conditt (R-Liberty Township) fundraiser, Oliver's, 26 N. High Street, Columbus, 12 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$350 to Butler for Ohio and/or Friends of Margy Conditt)

Sen. Kevin Bacon (R-Columbus) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Gold Room, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Event Host \$1,000, Event Sponsor \$500, Individual Attendee \$350 to Citizens for Kevin Bacon)

Thursday, September 15

Sen. Joe Uecker (R-Loveland) fundraiser, BELTERRA, 6301 Kellogg Rd., Cincinnati, 12 p.m., (Triple Crown: \$1500 | Champion: \$1000 | Winner's Circle: \$750 | Thoroughbred: \$500 | Jockey Club: \$250 | Individual Attendee: \$100 to The Committee to Elect Joe Uecker)

Friday, September 16

Sen. Frank LaRose (R-Copley Twp.) golf outing fundraiser, Firestone Country Club, South Course, 452 East Warner Road., Akron, 12 p.m., (Lunch at 12:00pm, Tee Times starting at 1:25pm; Lunch Only: \$300; Golf & Lunch: \$1,000 to LaRose for Senate)

Sunday, September 18

Sen. Cliff Hite (R-Findlay) golf outing fundraiser, Eagle Rock, 211 Carpenter Road, Defiance, 12 p.m., (12:00pm Noon, Lunch provided, 1:00pm Shotgun Start; \$1500 Eagle Sponsor - Includes team, food, drink tickets, green sign and tee sign; \$750 Birdie Sponsor - Includes team, food, and tee sign; \$400 per Team | \$100 per Golfer | \$100 Tee Sponsor Sign | \$100 Green Sponsor Sign to The Committee to Elect Cliff Hite)

Monday, September 19

Rep. Steve Huffman (R-Tipp City) golf outing fundraiser, Homestead Golf Course, 5327 Worley Road, Tipp City, 8:30 a.m., (8:30am Registration and Light Breakfast; 9:30am Remarks from Congressman Warren Davidson; 10:00am Shotgun Start. Event Sponsor: \$2,000; Food and Beverage Sponsor: \$1,000; Tee Sponsor: \$500; Individual Golfer: \$250 PAC/\$150 Individual to Steve Huffman for State Rep)

Tuesday, September 20

Celebration of Ohio Agriculture Luncheon at the Farm Science Review, Molly Caren Agricultural Center, London, 11 a.m., (Sponsored by OSU's College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.)

Rep. Derek Merrin (R-Waterville) fundraiser, OHROC Offices, 21 W. Broad Street, Floor 7, Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$350 to Friends of Derek Merrin)

Sen. Kris Jordan (R-Ostrander) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Parlor A&B, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Event Host \$1,000, Event Sponsor \$500, Individual Attendee \$350 to Friends of Kris Jordan)

Sen. John Eklund (R-Chardon) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Gold Room, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Event Host \$1,000, Event Sponsor \$500, Individual Attendee \$350 to Friends of John Eklund)

Sen. Troy Balderson (R-Zanesville) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Parlors A & B, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Event Host \$1,000, Event Sponsor \$500, Individual Attendee \$350 to Troy Balderson for State Senator)

Wednesday, September 21

Craig Riedel (R-Candidate 82nd House District) fundraiser, Oliver's, 26 N. High Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$200 to Citizens to Elect Craig Riedel)

Sen. Lou Gentile (D-Steubenville) fundraiser, Tony's, 16 W. Beck St., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (\$2,500 - Platinum Sponsor, \$1,000 - Gold Sponsor or \$500 to Friends of Lou Gentile)

Friday, September 23

Rep. Bob Cupp (R- Lima) golf outing fundraiser

Tuesday, September 27

Sen. Jay Hottinger (R-Newark) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Gold Room, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Event Host \$1,000, Event Sponsor \$500, Individual Attendee \$350 to Citizens for Hottinger)

Sen. Larry Obhof (R-Medina) & Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Bowling Alley, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Event Chair \$5,000; Event Host \$2,500; Event Sponsor \$1,000 or Individual \$500 to Citizens for Obhof and Peterson for Good Government)

Wednesday, September 28

Matt Dolan (R-Candidate 24th Senate District) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Parlors A & B, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Event Host \$1,000, Event Sponsor \$500, Individual Attendee \$350 to Friends of Matt Dolan)

Sen. Scott Oeslager (R-N. Canton) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Gold Room, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Event Chair \$5000, Event Host \$2,500, Event Sponsor \$1,000, Individual \$500 to Oeslager for Ohio Committee)

Thursday, September 29

Sen. Frank LaRose (R-Copley Twp.) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Gold Room, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Event Host \$1,000, Event Sponsor \$500, Individual Attendee \$350 to LaRose for Senate)

Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Parlors A & B, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Event Host \$1,000, Event Sponsor \$500, Individual Attendee \$350 to Citizens for Bill Beagle)

Friday, September 30

Deadline for filing May-August 2016 Activity & Expenditure Reports

Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) fly fishing fundraiser, Spring Run Farms, 9206 Haddix Road, Fairborn, 11 a.m., (11:00am-4:00pm Fishing, 4:00-6:00pm Reception; \$1,000 Pike Sponsor | \$500 Salmon Sponsor | \$350 Trout Sponsor | \$175 Bluegill Sponsor | \$100 per couple/family | \$75 per Individual to Citizens for Bill Beagle)

Sunday, October 2

Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) fall fest fundraiser, Peterson Farm, 5564 Grassy Branch Rd., Sabina, 4 p.m., (\$50 per Family | \$25 per Person to Peterson for Good Government)

Monday, October 3

OHROC Chairman's Cup golf outing fundraiser

Tuesday, October 4

Sen. Joe Uecker (R-Loveland) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Gold Room, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Event Host \$1,000, Event Sponsor \$500, Individual Attendee \$350 to The Committee to Elect Joe Uecker)

Wednesday, October 5

Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Gold Room, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 7:30 a.m., (Event Host \$1,000; Event Sponsor \$500; Individual Attendee \$350 to Citizens for Lehner)

Sen. Bob Hackett (R-London) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Gold Room, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Event Host \$1,000, Event Sponsor \$500, Individual Attendee \$350 to Hackett for Ohio)

Sen. President Keith Faber (R-Celina) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Crystal Room, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Event Chair \$5,000, Event Host \$2,500, Event Sponsor \$1,000 or Individual \$500 to Friends of Faber)

Thursday, October 6

Sen. Dave Burke (R-Marysville) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Gold Room, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Event Host \$1,000, Event Sponsor \$500, Individual Attendee \$350 to Team Burke)

Tuesday, October 11

Matt Huffman (R-Candidate 12th Senate District) & Rep. Louis Terhar (R-Cincinnati) fundraiser, Little Palace, 240 S. 4th St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (Event Host \$1,000, Event Sponsor \$500, Individual Attendee \$350 to Matt Huffman for Ohio and Friends of Lou Terhar)

Rep. Stephanie Kunze (R-Hilliard) fundraiser, Scioto Country Club, 2196 Riverside Dr., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Event Sponsor \$1000, Event Host \$500, \$150 per couple, \$100 per individual to Citizens for Stephanie Kunze)

Tuesday, October 18

OHROC Fundraising Reception, Athletic Club of Columbus, 136 E. Broad Street, Gold Room, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Chair: \$5,000; Sponsor: \$2,500; Host: \$1,000; Guest: \$500 OHROC)

Thursday, October 20

Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) shooting fundraiser, Vandalia Range and Armory, 100 Corp Center Drive, Vandalia, 5:30 p.m., (\$1000 Event Sponsor, includes up to 6 participants; \$500 Lane Sponsor, includes up to 4 participants; \$150 per couple | \$100 per person | \$50 Dinner only to Citizens for Bill Beagle)

Thursday, October 27

Deadline to file pre-general campaign finance reports

Monday, November 14

4th Annual Ohio Statehouse Family Feud, Renaissance Columbus Hotel, 50 N. Third St., Columbus, 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, December 15

Lobbyists can begin renewing Legislative, Executive, and Retirement System registrations

Friday, December 16

Deadline to file post-general campaign finance reports

Saturday, December 31

All lobbying registrations expire in OLAC (legislative, executive, and retirement system)

Sunday, January 1

Lobbyists/Employers can begin filing September-December 2016 Activity & Expenditure Reports

Lobbyists/Employers can begin filing September-December 2016 Activity & Expenditure Reports

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

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Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

NEWS UPDATE--Joint Committee Formed To Explore Unemployment Insurance Overhaul

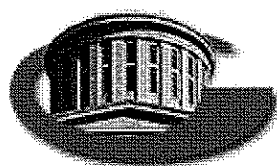
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Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com>

Mon, Aug 15, 2016 at 2:06 PM

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To: Standard_Subscriber_updates@gongwer-oh.com



GONGWER Ohio
The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Monday, August 15, 2016, 02:06 PM

Joint Committee Formed To Explore Unemployment Insurance Overhaul

Leader of both chambers on Monday announced the formation of joint committee to revamp the state's unemployment compensation system.

The Unemployment Compensation Reform Joint Committee will be led by Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) and Rep. Kirk Schuring (R-Canton).

"This is the second phase of a legislative effort to stabilize and modernize our unemployment compensation laws," Senate President Faber (R-Celina) said in a statement. "We started during the spring session by giving the governor's administration the authority to pay off our debt to the federal government, and now we're committed to improving the overall solvency of the unemployment compensation system. This committee will help us craft a bill for consideration during the upcoming fall session."

The group will focus on establishing long-term solvency of the system with input from labor groups, the business community and the state's workforce.

"Ensuring that Ohio's unemployment compensation system is sustainable is crucial for the continual growth of business in the state," Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) said. "This is an important issue for Ohio's future and I want to thank Senate President Faber, as well as those on the committee, for their willingness to address this issue in a commonsense and collaborative way."

Other members of the committee include:

- Sen. Randy Gardner (R-Bowling Green)
- Sen. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati)
- Sen. Kenny Yuko (D-Richmond Hts.)
- Rep. Bob Cupp (R-Lima)
- Rep. Gary Scherer (R-Circleville)
- Rep. Jack Cera (D-Bellaire)

The group has five meetings slated: Aug. 25, Sept. 15, Oct. 6, Oct. 20 and Nov. 3.

Legislation (HB 394) was introduced last year to overhaul the system. However, the measure has been stalled in committee as labor groups and other interests have spoken out against the proposed changes. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 9, 2016)

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7/23/2018

Gmail - NEWS UPDATE--Joint Committee Formed To Explore Unemployment Insurance Overhaul

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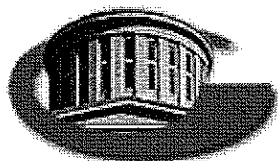
Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

Ohio Report, Tuesday, August 23, 2016

1 message

Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com>
To: sml@sarahlatourette.com

Tue, Aug 23, 2016 at 5:39 PM

**GONGWER** Ohio
The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906**Ohio Report for Tuesday, August 23, 2016**

Federal Appeals Court Backs Ohio's Move To Eliminate 'Golden Week,' Reverses District Judge's Ruling

Cleveland Lawsuit Seeks To Block Law Banning Local Hiring Quotas

Judge Denies ODE's Request To Dismiss ECOT Case

Study Panel Starts Work On School Anti-Drug Messaging

Brown, Columbus Officials Call For More Funding For Naloxone, Addiction Treatments

Husted Announces The Launch Of Interactive iBook About Ohio's Role In Presidential Politics

Capitol Scene: Baker Named Medical Association CEO

Education Notes: Analysis Shows Cleveland Schools Improving Despite Continued Poor Performance; Sponsor Evaluation Rule Delay Impact Questioned...

Agency Briefs: Two Townships Placed On 'Unauditable' List; Labor Force Estimates; AG; ODH; ODI

Governor's Appointments

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Event Planner

Calendars

Day Planner


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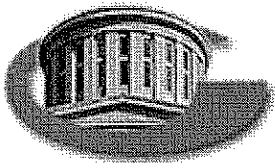
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GONGWER Ohio
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Daily Activity Planner for Wednesday, August 24

Legislative Committees

No legislative committees scheduled.

Agency Calendar

Local Government Innovation Council, Rm. West B&C, 31st Fl., 77 S. High St., Columbus, 10 a.m.

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 E. Broad St., 11th Fl., Columbus, 1:30 p.m.

Event Planner

Sen. Troy Balderson (R-Zanesville) & Rep. Stephanie Kunze (R-Candidate 16th Senate District) golf outing fundraiser, Country Club at Muirfield Village, 8715 Muirfield Drive, Dublin, 8:30 a.m., (\$1,000 Total Contribution. Golfers pay for their own golf. Please make separate checks for \$500 each payable to Troy Balderson for State Senator & Citizens for Stephanie Kunze)

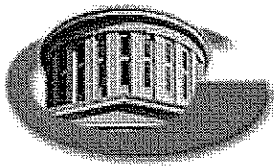
Bernadine Kent (D-Candidate 25th House District) fundraiser, The Lincoln Café, 740 E. Long St., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Sponsor: \$2,500, \$1,000, \$500, \$125, \$50 to Kent for Ohio)

17 S. High St., Suite 630
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GONGWER Ohio
The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Volume #85, Report #163 -- Tuesday, August 23, 2016

Federal Appeals Court Backs Ohio's Move To Eliminate 'Golden Week,' Reverses District Judge's Ruling

Republicans in control of Ohio government won a key court ruling Tuesday when a federal appeals panel overturned a district judge's finding that the elimination of an overlap in registration and early voting periods disproportionately impacted black voters.

The 2-1 decision by the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati reverses District Court Judge Michael Watson's finding that the GOP-led legislature's elimination of "Golden Week" (SB238, 130th General Assembly) was unconstitutional. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 24, 2016)

The majority opinion, written by appeals court Judge David McKeague, concluded that the legislation that rolled back some of the state's early voting "results, at most, in a minimal disparate burden on some African Americans' right to vote, and because the State's legitimate interests are 'sufficiently weighty' to justify this minimal burden, S.B. 238 easily survives plaintiffs' equal protection challenge."

Judge Richard Griffin joined in the majority opinion.

Judge Jane Branstetter Stranch dissented, saying she would have affirmed the district court's "very limited injunction" on the basis that the law's "elimination of Golden Week, reducing early in-person voting and same day registration, is a violation of equal protection and Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965."

The appeals court ruling was a setback for the Ohio Democratic Party and others who backed the lawsuit in an effort to preserve Golden Week, a period during which people could register and vote on the same day.

While opponents of the law argued that it - along with other legislation passed in Ohio - was designed to curb mainly Democratic constituencies' election participation, supporters maintained it was a bureaucratic burden on election boards and pointed to Ohio's relatively generous early voting opportunities compared to other states.

Secretary of State Jon Husted welcomed Tuesday's decision in a statement.

"Ohio offers a generous number of days, hours and ways to vote - making us one of the easiest states in which to cast a ballot," he said. "This issue has been dragged through the courts by political activists twice over the course of several years, and both times, it has ended with the same result: Ohio's laws are fair and constitutional."

"I hope the Democrats will end their wasteful lawsuits so we can all move forward with this election," Mr. Husted added.

ODP Chairman David Pepper criticized the decision, which he said would strike down a "popular and cherished feature" of Ohio's election system.

"We are disappointed with the Circuit Court panel's decision today, and we are examining our next steps to ensure Golden Week is restored," he said in a statement. "The decision today is a reminder that we all need to exercise that right this fall and cast our ballot for candidates who will protect and expand the right to vote, not restrict it."

Rep. Alicia Reece (D-Cincinnati), president of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus, also expressed disappointed in the ruling.

"Eliminating 'Golden Week' in Ohio will negatively impact low-income and minority voters," she said. "The ability for Ohioans from all walks of life to exercise their most fundamental freedom should not hinge upon whomever happens to hold the secretary of state's office during any given election cycle. Today's ruling highlights the importance of protecting every citizen's right to vote in our state's constitution, so that politicians can no longer rig the rules for partisan gain."

Rep. Kathleen Clyde (D-Kent), a vocal critic of the GOP's policies, said the court "ignored the intensive fact-finding done by District Court Judge Watson and applied a test that would appear to allow voting restrictions straight out of the 1950s. The facts uncovered by the lower court remain: there was no sufficient justification to eliminate the first week of early voting and the burden falls disproportionately on Ohio's minority voters."

The Buckeye Institute for Public Policy Solutions, one of several groups to file amicus briefs in the case, applauded the ruling.

"Ohio voters can go to the polls this fall knowing the integrity of the state's electoral process is more protected," said Daniel Dew, a legal fellow with Institute. "Ohio voters, our law-making system, and the entire nation who will be watching our state this November won today."

"The Buckeye Institute's Legal Center will continue to stand up for Ohioans against judges who ignore the clear intent of the law. This victory also strengthens the laws of 40 other states that have fewer absentee days than Ohio, a national leader in early voting."

Judge McKeague's opinion found fault with most of the lower court's reasoning in the case, saying the law neither violated the Equal Protection clause nor the Voting Rights Act.

He said the court's task "is neither to craft the 'best' approach, nor 'to impose our own idea of democracy upon the Ohio state legislature.'"

"Rather, we simply call balls and strikes and apply a generous strike zone when the state articulates legitimate and reasonable justifications for minimally burdensome, non-discriminatory election regulations," he wrote.

"Accordingly, we conclude that S.B. 238, affording abundant and convenient opportunities for all Ohioans to exercise their right to vote, is well within the constitutionally granted prerogative and authority of the Ohio Legislature to regulate state election processes. It does not run afoul of the Equal Protection Clause or the Voting Rights Act, as those laws have been interpreted and applied to voting regulations in the most instructive decisions of the Supreme Court."

Judge Stranch wrote that the majority's opinion was based on an overly restrictive read of the application of federal and case law involving elections.

"The Supreme Court has repeatedly instructed that '[t]he Voting Rights Act was aimed at the subtle, as well as the obvious, state regulations which have the effect of denying citizens their right to vote because of their race'... and 'should be interpreted in a manner that provides 'the broadest possible scope' in combating racial discrimination,'" she wrote.

Cleveland Lawsuit Seeks To Block Law Banning Local Hiring Quotas

A controversial measure banning local hiring quotas that took effect earlier this year is unconstitutional, according to a lawsuit filed Tuesday by the City of Cleveland.

The lawsuit, filed in Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court, alleges that the law (HB 180) is a violation of home rule authority granted by the state's constitution.

The law "violates the Ohio Constitution by purporting to preempt and deprive the city of its powers of local self-government established by Article XVIII, Section 3 of the Ohio Constitution, Ohio Home Rule Amendment," the complaint reads.

Signed into law by Gov. John Kasich on May 31, it is set to take effect Aug. 31. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 31, 2016)

If it does, the city argues, it would override a 2003 ordinance that requires 20% of taxpayer-funded construction hours to go to city residents. The law also requires that 4% of those hours are worked by low-income residents.

Since 2013, according to the lawsuit, the law has allowed city residents to work 897,870 hours on taxpayer funded construction projects, generating more than \$34 million in wages. More than 100,000 were worked by low-income city residents.

Those numbers, the city claims, demonstrate the irreparable harm that would beset the city if the law is allowed to take effect.

"There is no way the loss of such hours would be compensated in the future. The economic benefit to the city and the direct loss by Cleveland citizens would be irreparable," the lawsuit reads. "The city law was put into place because the city council had determined that citizens of Cleveland were not getting the opportunities associated with public construction contracts funded by the city."

Sponsoring Rep. Ron Maag (R-Lebanon) said the local hiring quotas build "walls against employment." (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 12, 2015)

"When an Ohio governmental entity implements a residency restriction, that restriction cannot be applied to out-of-state employees of any contractor, or out-of-state contractors," he said during sponsor testimony. "Ironically, this gives an unintended competitive advantage to out-of-state contractors."

He also pointed to a 2009 Ohio Supreme Court Case - *Lima v. State* - that found cities cannot require their employees to reside in the city of employment as justification for the bill.

Democrats, however, argued throughout the process that it would strip local governments of home-rule powers and sought to insert language that would have allowed for 5% local hiring quotas. However, that proposal was rejected. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 4, 2016)

The bill was approved in a party-line vote in the Senate, where it was spared a provision inserted into companion legislation (SB 152) in the House that Democrats described as "Senate Bill 5-lite." (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 3, 2016)

On the House floor, Democrats sought to add language that would have allowed local hiring quotas of up to 5%. However, the proposal was rejected.

Rep. Alicia Reece (D-Cincinnati) welcomed the suit on Tuesday, saying the Ohio constitution is intended, in part, "to protect the freedom of local decision making in communities across Ohio."

"Local hiring standards have been an effective tool to push back against the high unemployment that plagues too many minority communities in our urban cores," she added. "For the state to take away tools that increase broad-based economic opportunity and increase our skilled workforce is unconscionable, but I applaud Cleveland leaders for fighting back against what is effectively taxation without participation."

Judge Denies ODE's Request To Dismiss ECOT Case

The battle between the state's largest e-school and the Department of Education isn't expected to come to a close anytime soon.

Franklin County Common Pleas Judge Jenifer French has denied the agency's request to dismiss an Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow lawsuit tied to student attendance calculations.

That means the parties will move forward with presenting evidence to the court early next month in preparation for a trial that isn't slated to take place until next fall.

In her decision, Judge French dismissed ODE's arguments that ECOT's lawsuit is "not ripe" because it has not yet completed its full-time equivalency audit and no funding decisions have been made to reflect student log-in times - data that the school says should not be included in the review of student participation.

"The court finds that a determination of whether this matter is ripe for adjudication in this court is not dependent upon whether the ODE has rendered a final determination as to ECOT's funding, but rather is dependent upon the ODE's decision to use the log-in time/duration criteria in its FTE audit of ECOT," she wrote. "More specifically, the court finds that the ODE has indicated that it has already been using and intends to continue to use the log-in durations as part of its FTE review process."

She also cited complaints from ECOT that the FTE review was being completed under the direction of rules that ODE didn't have the authority to make.

"Therefore, the court finds that these are existing disputes that are also valid subjects for declaratory judgment," Judge French said.

According to the decision, ODE's grounds for dismissal based on the fact that an administrative process exists to counter FTE audit findings don't apply either because the virtual school's complaints could not be addressed through such avenues.

Judge French further said that the court cannot assume that ECOT parents' complaints that they are being singled out by the agency and its FTE audit are untrue - a point that ODE made in its request for dismissal.

ECOT Spokesman Neil Clark praised the decision, which clears that path for the school to pursue a handful of claims against ODE. Those include allegations that the agency violated a long-standing agreement by requiring the school to hand over student log-in duration records and use them to make funding decisions.

"ODE has wanted to act as legislator, judge, jury and executioner for e-schools. Today the court rejected that abuse of power," he said in a statement.

Agency spokeswoman Brittany Halpin defended the agency's intentions and plans to move forward with FTE audits despite the ongoing litigation.

"Our focus remains on the students, families and taxpayers of Ohio. We have the duty of ensuring that all charter schools are providing the education for which taxpayers are paying. Ohio's students deserve no less," she said.

Study Panel Starts Work On School Anti-Drug Messaging

The Joint Study Committee on Drug Use Prevention Education on Tuesday kicked off a series of informational meetings as it looks to make recommendations about how to infuse addiction prevention lessons into schools.

The 22-member panel, which is expected to make recommendations before the end of the year, is planning to hold conference call meetings to gather information about drug prevention and education programs that already exist in the state.

In order to comply with the state's open meetings laws, the study committee will hold off on making decisions and having policy discussions until meeting in person, said Amy O'Grady, director of criminal justice initiatives for the attorney general's office.

The committee is also planning to host four meetings throughout the state to gather input from stakeholders, she said.

At Tuesday's meeting, panel members who met in a conference room in the AG's office and those on a phone line heard from Betsy Walker and Nicole Kwiek, who co-direct Generation Rx, which provides resources for prescription drug education.

Based in Columbus, the program that began in 2007 focuses on medication safety and the danger of misusing prescription drugs.

Nationally, 165,000 individuals were educated through Generation Rx materials and ambassadors last year, Ms. Walker said. It's likely many of those were school-aged children.

Although the program materials are not geared specifically toward schools, there are some that do cater to middle- and high-schoolers, Ms. Kwiek added. They are best tailored to fit into science curriculum because students can make the connection between drugs and their chemical reactions with the body.

"I think science is an excellent way to go about this as well because they are going to be expected to have science all throughout their curriculum," she said. "Talking a little bit about how these drugs are working and how they can be dangerous based on the pharmacology is an excellent, non-judgmental, objective angle to talk with these students."

Under current state education standards, the best fit for Generation Rx curriculum in schools may be in health classes because the human body is not studied in science, Stephanie Nowak of Fairfax Elementary Schools said.

Rep. Robert Sprague (R-Findlay) said he likes the materials provided through the educational program and asked how they address the link between opioid abuse and heroin addiction.

While it's likely that pharmacy students who are speaking with classrooms make the connection between the two, Generation Rx isn't limited to opioids, Ms. Walker said. There are materials related to all types of prescription drugs.

The program also focuses on pharmacists and their role as health advocates and sources of information, she added.

Brown, Columbus Officials Call For More Funding For Naloxone, Addiction Treatments

U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown called Tuesday for more funding to fight the nation's opioid abuse epidemic, saying Congress should approve emergency funding to make naloxone available to first responders.

The Avon Democrat said during a news conference at a Columbus fire station that the passage and signing of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act was a first step toward fighting the addiction problem, but doesn't include enough funding.

"This bill is good. I liked it, I voted for it. It's a first step, it's not a bad first step, but it overpromises," Sen. Brown said in an interview after the news conference. "It says we're going to do this, this, this and this, and without the funding you can't do this, this, this and this."

Sen. Brown said it's been hard to find support from congressional Republicans for more money to make sure the goals of the legislation are achieved.

"We pass a feel-good bill and make a lot of good speeches but we haven't funded it, so it creates all of this anticipation but we don't do the job," he said.

Emily Benavides, a spokeswoman for CARA sponsor Sen. Rob Portman, said the Terrace Park Republican and others in his party pushed hard for more funding to fight drug addiction. The law authorizes \$181 million per

year in spending for new programs in the legislation. Total federal spending on opioids has more than doubled since 2015, she said, and the Senate Appropriations Committee approved more funding than was requested by President Obama.

"Portman knows that we need to fully fund these programs and that's why he's been a leader in the push for more funding against this crisis," she said in an email. "In addition to fighting to enact CARA, Portman has worked with the Senate Appropriations Committee to secure significant increases in funding for opioid programs."

Sen. Brown said he and other Democrats pushed to appropriate \$600 million to support CARA, but it was voted down.

"We've tried ever since to figure out a way," he said.

Columbus City Council President Zach Klein and Health Commissioner Dr. Teresa Long joined Sen. Brown at the event, saying naloxone and other approaches to the drug problem included in the CARA legislation can work, but local governments aren't properly funded.

Mr. Klein, who is running for Franklin County Prosecutor, stressed that increasing funding for naloxone wasn't just a way to help keep addicts alive, it would give people a chance to beat the addiction.

"This is not social service," he said. "This is effective law enforcement."

Officials said the city has used naloxone to save lives more than 1,100 times already this year, and they expect to use it more this year than the 2,200 times last year. Dr. Long said last week alone, Columbus first responders used naloxone to save 31 lives. Other parts of the state have seen outbreaks of even more overdoses, and she said that's likely to happen in Columbus.

"It is a matter of time till we have the really bad weekend," she said.

The overdose-reversing drug gives addicts a second chance at fighting the disease of addiction, she said.

"Naloxone gives us a chance to help our residents and our neighbors recover," she said. "Honestly, you can't recover if you're dead."

Sen. Brown said federal and state leaders need to consider other tools beyond naloxone as well, including more funding to help local treatment centers.

"Every community's got a decent, passable treatment operation," he said, "but none of them have the funding to scale up. They've all got waiting lists. They're overwhelmed. Too many people are dying. Every community's got overdoses."

Husted Announces The Launch Of Interactive iBook About Ohio's Role In Presidential Politics

Secretary of State Jon Husted on Tuesday rolled out a tool that he hopes will educate and engage voters - especially the young - on the 2016 presidential election and Ohio's role in presidential politics.

Ohio: Pathway to the Presidency, a free iBook available through the Apple store, is now available and contains information about the eight Ohioans to serve as president, historical interactive election results, a demographic overview of the state, information about the 2016 race and a live feed with real-time results that will be available Nov. 8.

"My favorite aspect of this is the cost. It's free to everybody," Mr. Husted said during a Statehouse news conference.

The iBook also features quizzes after each chapter and also contains information on how eligible Ohioans can vote.



Jon Husted

Mr. Husted said he plans to encourage schools across the state to use the iBook as a learning tool for students. He also hopes that the iBook will be used by older Ohioans.

"Frankly, as I was looking through it I learned a lot of new things," he said, before adding, "If I would have had this kind of tool in high school I would have probably done better and enjoyed it a lot more."

The tool was developed at no cost in conjunction with the Ohio History Connection and Jason LaMar of Columbus State Community College, who designed the iBook as part of the Apple Distinguished Educator program.

"We are so pleased that Secretary Husted asked the Ohio History Connection to partner with his office on *Ohio: Pathway to the Presidency iBook*," Todd Kleismit, director of community and government relations for the Ohio History Connection, said. "The educational components are excellent and I am confident that Ohio students will enjoy using the iBook as they learn more about Ohio history, voting and why being an informed and engaged citizen is so important."

The multi-touch book features both audio and visual components, according to Mr. LaMar, who said the goal was to "elevate this from passive readership to active engagement."

"We're trying to make this really engaging, especially for K-12 students," he said.

One of the audio features is the campaign songs of former presidential candidates.

"They're sometimes amusing, sometimes confusing, but always interesting," Mr. LaMar said.

The five-chapter iBook will be updated. Mr. LaMar called it "a living digital document."

The tool will work best on an iPad, according to Mr. LaMar.

While not available on the Android platform, Mr. Husted said he would be interested in making the tool as widely available as possible.

"It's important that we have an engaged and educated electorate, especially in Ohio where the hopes of presidential candidates rise and fall," he said. "We want people to register, we want people to be involved and we want people to vote. This is a new and innovative way we can approach our young people and lay the groundwork for civic engagement among Ohio's future decision-makers."

Capitol Scene: Baker Named Medical Association CEO

Todd M. Baker, who has served as co-CEO of the Ohio State Medical Association since 2014, was announced Tuesday as the group's next chief executive.

Before being appointed as co-CEO, Mr. Baker was the association's senior director of professional relations - a role where he has been involved in the organization's independent physician, advocacy and external relations divisions. He also worked as executive director of the Ohio Ophthalmological Society since 1995.

"I have a strong working relationship with the leading healthcare organizations and policymakers in Ohio, and I look forward to continuing our partnership to make healthcare in Ohio the best it can be for patients and providers," he said.

OSMA said it received more than 200 applications for the job, and initially focused on a group of 16 candidates.

A Columbus resident, Mr. Baker holds degrees from Oberlin College and the University of Texas at Austin's Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs.

He begins the new job in January, succeeding D. Brent Mulgrew, who is retiring after 42 years with the association. He was the OSMA's executive director for the past 24 years.

Education Notes: Analysis Shows Cleveland Schools Improving Despite Continued Poor Performance; Sponsor Evaluation Rule Delay Impact Questioned...

The Cleveland Municipal City School District is improving since the so-called Cleveland Plan was created in 2012, but it's still among the worst performing large urban schools in the state, according to a new report.

In an analysis of how the plan has impacted the district, Innovation Ohio found that enrollment and graduation rates are up more than other similarly situated schools in Ohio.

Disciplinary actions are down and proficiency scores have improved, as well.

However, the liberal organization said more needs to be done to lift CMSD because it's still ranking in the bottom portion of troubled schools across the nation in proficiency, enrollment growth and graduation rates.

The report provides suggestions for continued and accelerated improvement under the plan. They include restoring a more than \$152 million reduction in state funding since 2009 and mending a rift between the district and its employees that is likely linked to a 20% reduction in teachers.

"The strife among district administrators and teachers must end and a new, more positive relationships must begin," according to the report. "If the scope of the plan continues to focus primarily on ways to reduce payroll and employees' voices in the workplace, the emerging successes of this plan will not materialize."

Innovation Ohio said it's also necessary for residents to check 'yes' on November's ballot to renew the levy that was passed in 2012 as a complement to The Cleveland Plan.

Charter School Grant: Some charter school advocates are concerned the state could lose \$71 million in federal grants to expand the sector following a legislative panel's vote to delay the implementation of a sponsor evaluation rule.

Chad Aldis, vice president of Ohio policy and advocacy for the Fordham Institute, told the *Columbus Dispatch* that the approval of the controversial charter schools grant was closely tied to the state's new sponsor evaluation.

On Monday, the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review voted to re-refer a rule related to the compliance portion of the evaluations to the Common Sense Initiative, citing concerns that it is unlawfully retroactive and based on an incorrect fiscal analysis. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, August 22, 2016)

The Department of Education has not yet commented on how the decision to re-refer the rules could impact the October statutory deadline to set sponsor rankings.

The grant funding is currently pending release as the department seeks to explain its application, the accuracy of which has been called into question. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, November 4, 2015)

Kickoff: Superintendent of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria is set to join two Columbus school districts as they kick off the start of a new school year.

He and Columbus City Schools Superintendent Dan Good plan to take part in Columbus City Preparatory School for Boys' annual "Ties That Bind" tie-tying ceremony on Wednesday.

On Aug. 31, he's expected to head to The Graham School where he and school CEO Greg Brown will visit with students and teachers on the first day of school.

Tour: The Ohio Democratic Party is headlining a "Back-to-School Tour" that, on Tuesday, detailed the impact of funding charter schools instead of traditional schools.

Senate Minority Leaders Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman), Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper, Sen. Charleta B. Tavares (D-Columbus) and House and Senate candidates appeared at schools in Dayton and Columbus.

Calling it a "charter tax," the party leaders were set to explain how much money leaves local school districts when their students choose to go to charter schools instead.

Agency Briefs: Two Townships Placed On 'Unauditable' List; Labor Force Estimates; AG; ODH; ODI

State Auditor Dave Yost announced two townships were placed on the "unauditable" list for having records in poor condition.

The auditor placed Mifflin Township in Richland County on the list due to bank reconciliations that didn't include all accounts or agree with township ledgers. The records were found to be inadequate to perform an audit of 2014 and 2015.

"Poor records lead to poor service for taxpayers," Auditor Yost said in a statement. "Auditable records must be provided to complete the audit and ensure accountability."

Fairfield Township in Columbia County was placed on the list due to the poor condition of its financial records, the auditor's office said. An independent accounting firm found the records to be inadequate when conducting an audit for 2014 and 2015.

"Poorly kept records create a lack of accountability," Auditor Yost said. "Fairfield Township must bring its records back to an auditable condition to complete the audit."

Both townships have within 90 days of being placed on the list to provide the necessary data and bring records to an auditable condition. If not, the attorney general can issue a subpoena to officials to explain the condition of the records, or file suit to require them to produce the needed data.

Another audit found current and former council members of the City of Huron in Erie County owe a total of nearly \$20,000 after accepting mid-term pay raises.

The audit found the council passed an ordinance in December 2013 to set its salary at \$750 per month starting the next month. Three council members accepted the increased pay in the middle of their terms, which violated the city's charter.

The three council members should have earned \$2,400 per year until their reelection, but each received overpayments of \$6,600 in 2014. Findings for recovery of \$6,600 each were issued against the council members.

The city's current and former finance directors were found jointly and severally liable for authorizing the deposits that resulted in the improper payments.

"It's up to the taxpayers to decide whether your performance merits a pay raise," Auditor Yost said. "If council members pass legislation to boost pay, they have to wait until they're reelected before the change takes effect."

Labor Force: Unemployment rates across the state's counties in July ranged from 3.1% in Mercer County to 9.9% in Monroe County, according to the Department of Job and Family Services.

Rates compared to June were down in 67 counties, up in eight counties and unchanged in 13 counties as the state's rate fell to 4.8%.

Five counties - Delaware, Hancock, Holmes, Mercer and Putnam - had rates below 3.5%. Four counties - Meigs, Monroe, Jefferson and Noble - had rates at or above 7.5%.

Attorney General: Mike DeWine announced the Bureau of Criminal Investigation, the BCI's crime laboratories and the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy all recently received re-accreditation from their respective accrediting organizations.

"At the Ohio Attorney General's Office, we strive for excellence in everything we do, and I am proud that BCI, BCI's crime laboratories, and OPOTA were all once again recognized as being among the best of the best," he said in a statement.

Health: The department is joining with the Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to begin fall oral rabies vaccination operations in 12 counties of northeast and eastern Ohio.

Baiting started Monday and should be finished by Sept. 11. It's expected to cover 4,102 square miles of the state.

Vaccine baiting operations are designed to immunize raccoons that are at the greatest risk of rabies coming into the state, creating an "immune barrier" along the state line that can prevent the spread of the virus.

Last year, six animals were confirmed to be infected with raccoon-rabies variant virus in Ohio, three in Mahoning County and three in Trumbull County. One raccoon in Mahoning County and two in Trumbull County have tested positive this year.

Insurance: Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor urged athletes and parents to take sports into consideration when purchasing health insurance coverage.

Health insurance plans usually provide treatment for sports injuries and follow-up care, but it could depend on the specific plan, according to ODI. Parents and athletes should be aware of their specific coverage.

Parents should also be aware of their school or athletic association's coverage, the department said.

"Even with helmet safety advancement and awareness injuries unfortunately occur," Lt. Gov. Taylor, also director of the Ohio Department of Insurance, said in a statement. "Reviewing your insurance coverage at the start of the season is important financial conditioning."

Governor's Appointments

Civil Rights Commission: Leonard Hubert of Granville for a term beginning August 23, 2016 and ending July 28, 2021.

Oil and Gas Commission: Andrew R. Thomas of Pepper Pike for a term beginning August 23, 2016 and ending October 14, 2018.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Thursday, August 25

Southern Ohio Agricultural & Community Development Foundation, 11 S. High St., Hillsboro, 9 a.m.
(Educational Assistance Review Committee)

Supplemental Event Planner

Thursday, November 10


Impact Ohio post-election conference,

Greater Columbus Convention Center, 400 N. High St., Columbus, (www.impactohio.org)

17 S. High St., Suite 630
Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | **Fax:** 614-221-7844 | **Email:** gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Alan Miller, Vice President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

ALEC Digital Exchange: Public Employee Unions, Energy Policy Platforms

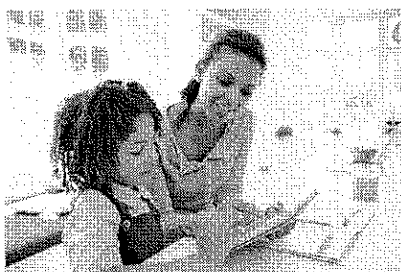
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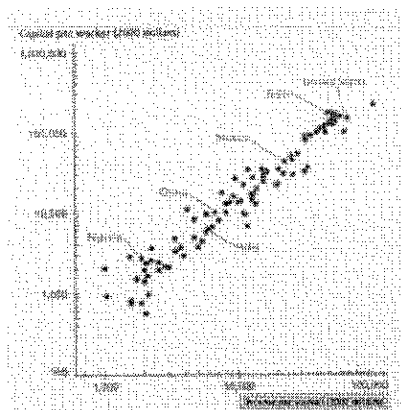


Digital Exchange



Public Employees Deserve Choice, So Do Public Employee Unions

On June 28, 2016 dashed were many hopes to liberate public employees from being forced to contribute to political causes with which they disagreed. The Supreme Court decided **not to rehear** *Friedrichs v. California Teachers Association*, a **case** that was originally decided...[Read More](#)



Arkansas Gains Big on Capital Gains Tax Cut

According to Governor Asa Hutchinson, Arkansas ended fiscal year 2016 with a budget surplus of \$177.4 million – a sizable \$117.3 million higher than the previous fiscal year. Individual and corporate income tax revenues blew through expectations: individual income tax collections exceeded estimates by \$82.1 million with refunds already factored

...[Read More](#)

Energy Policy Platform: The Democrats

When the Democratic National Convention met last month to formally approve their party's platform, delegates had to address several key tasks. Chief among them was to clarify the party's stance on the pressing energy and environmental issues of the day. The new platform contains a number of key changes from...[Read More](#)

Energy Policy Platform: The Republicans

When the Republican National Committee finalized its **Party Platform** in July, they divided the document into six separate sections. One of those sections – perhaps indicative of just how important the policy issues in question are to the Party – is titled "America's Natural Resources: Agriculture, Energy, and the...[Read More](#)

Energy Policy Platform: The Libertarians and Greens

7/24/2018

Gmail - ALEC Digital Exchange: Public Employee Unions, Energy Policy Platforms

While most of the nation's attention this election cycle remains fixated on the Democratic and Republican parties, other smaller parties have been able to make some noise. Perhaps unsurprisingly, the energy and environmental positions espoused by the Libertarian and Green parties are at nearly polar opposites, but represent unique perspectives...[Read More](#)

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ALEC Center for Innovation and Technology: Work Force Z

1 message

American Legislative Exchange Council <avamer@alec.org>

Tue, Aug 30, 2016 at 12:08 PM

To: latoursm@gmail.com

**Center for Innovation and Technology****Work Force Z**

Tomorrow's workforce is already here, and the workers who comprise it are likely to demand changes in the system that has largely remained the same for more than 100 years.

This year marked the beginning of Generation Z entering into the professional work force, as the oldest of the generation prepares to turn 22. Their workstyles and preferences are different than the generations that came before them. Born as the World Wide Web was being commercialized, when eBay began, as mobile phones were becoming affordable and available, and as DVDs made their debut, the world was becoming more mobile and everything became more available. Gen Z took note.

A 2014 survey by Northeastern University found that the typical Gen Z member is entrepreneurial and highly self-directed, demanding to be in charge of their own future. A few more of the interesting revelations about Gen Z:

- They want to control their economic destiny, believing that entrepreneurship is the best path. 42% expect to work for themselves. 59% of Latinos desired the same. 60% of African Americans did as well.
- They are taking control now. 72% said that colleges should allow students to completely design their own college courses and majors.
- They seek to gain practical skills and genuine experience. 79% want colleges to integrate work experience with coursework in order to give them a better chance to compete in the workplace.
- They blend the use of technology into their lives, rather than replace their lives with technology. 38% make most of their purchases online. 15% prefer social media to in person interactions.

But, they are about to run headlong into a workforce largely opposed to the freedom they seek.

Increasingly, sharing economy platforms, such as Uber, HomeAway, Taskrabbit or Thumbtack enable services to be available on demand provided by people who want to use their time and resources to earn income in a flexible way, a way in which they determine when they work, where they work, why they work and how they work. Human capital blended with a technology infrastructure and a free market to deliver what is needed and providing benefits to the provider as well.

Unfortunately though, government hinders or outright stops this evolution with laws and regulations that fail to understand or care about this new economy as many federal and state labor laws stand in opposition to worker freedom and choice. The system is largely binary; a person is either an employee or a contract worker. If a generous company wanted to provide benefits to its contractors, those

contractors would likely be reclassified as employees, raising the cost to the company essentially penalizing the company for helping people. If an employee wanted the freedom to operate independently, a company is likely to appropriately make them an independent contractor so they are not responsible for what happens outside of the organization's purview. Any loss of benefits is a penalty borne by the independent minded employee.

And a thicket of labor class action lawsuits continues to drive this limited worldview. According to Business Week, a dozen of these lawsuits currently involve start-ups and classification of workers. Rather than allowing individuals and employers the freedom to pursue a mix that works best for them, government rules force people into a box that may work for no one, except the regulators. As just one example, Thumbtack, "an online service that connects people with skilled local professionals to get their projects done" reports that 84% of those who find business on Thumbtack "Love what they do." Meanwhile, Gallup found that generally in the workforce a mere 29% of American workers are "engaged" at work.

We need a 21st Century framework that better balances the needs, interests and aspirations of all workers. One that empowers them to find a way to be productive in ways they find valuable, not in a way that government dictates.

Sincerely,

Bartlett D. Cleland
Vice President
Center for Innovation and Technology

Nickle and Diming Innovation to Death

D.C.'s Coming War Against AirBnB and Bed and Breakfasts

Apple's Newest Acquisition Will Put Your Medical Records at Your Fingertips

Police Use 3D Technology to Access a Smartphone

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ALEC CEO Update

1 message

Lisa B. Nelson <lisanelson@alec.org>
To: latoursm@gmail.com

Wed, Aug 31, 2016 at 3:01 PM



ALEC CEO Update



I hope you had time this summer to decompress, because the end of August brings us back to school and work.

If you joined us at the Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, you know we had an excellent lineup of speakers. **I strongly encourage you to watch and share the videos of the speeches. They were entertaining, compelling and moving.**

Governor Rick Perry gave what many called the best speech of his career. He called on ALEC members not to give up on communities because of historical voting patterns and to approach criminal justice reform with the understanding that our ideas can transform peoples' lives for good.



Dr. Steve Perry humorously confronted attendees about past opportunities conservatives have missed in the educational arena. Dr. Perry implored ALEC members to work with non-traditional allies to improve educational opportunities for all American children.

Rebecca Friedrichs shared how she fought the California Teachers Union and took her case to the Supreme Court. The Court deadlocked at 4-4, handed victory to the unions and proved what impact the next confirmed Justice will have on the country.



Videos of the speeches, including **Kellyanne Conway**; **Alfredo Ortiz**; and Governors **Greg Abbott** and **Mike Pence**, are available at the **ALEC Youtube channel**.

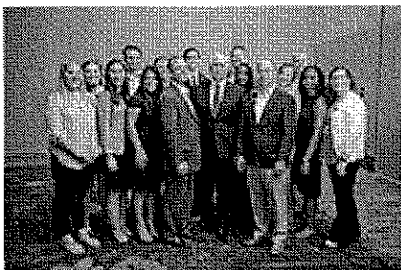
Beyond meetings, and as we prepare for the 2017 legislative session, the American Legislative Exchange Council is buzzing with activity. As you know, we are increasing policy capacity in our Centers. I'm pleased to share with you the exciting news that beginning in mid-September, with Representative Phil King's leadership, **ALEC will add an Energy Innovation project to the portfolio of the Center for Innovation and Technology.**

The Director of Energy Innovation will conduct research to identify limited government approaches to energy innovation, including an

all-of-the-above energy strategy and streamlining the permit process for nuclear facilities and/or dam electrification.

The Energy Innovation project will not impact the function of the Task Force on Energy, Environment and Agriculture. The Task Force will continue to be a platform for idea exchange and model policy development and support consumer access to affordable, reliable and safe energy. **I look forward to sharing with you more about the upcoming work of the partnership between the EEA Task Force and the Energy Innovation project.**

The ALEC hallways are also about to be buzzing again, as we get ready to welcome the fall intern class.



An internship in Washington, D.C. is a fabulous opportunity for young people exploring a career in public policy, but it occurs to me that you may not be aware of our intern program. We have three annual intern classes (fall, spring and summer semesters), or ongoing internship opportunities that pair students with specific work.

ALEC interns do not fetch coffee - they write, conduct research and work in a variety of policy areas. Our interns learn about media and public affairs, meeting and convention planning and working with lawmakers.

If you have a child, family member or friend you think would benefit from a D.C. internship at ALEC, **[they can learn more here.](#)**

I hope you enjoyed your summer and are ready to get back to the important policy work we accomplish together.

Sincerely,

Lisa B. Nelson
ALEC CEO

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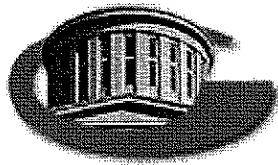
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Ohio News & Opinion For September 2, 2016

News

Ohio moves ahead with charter school sponsor evaluations (Associated Press, 9/2/2016)

Labor chief to Ted Strickland: Up your game (Cincinnati Enquirer, 9/2/2016)

Ohio asks: Are you registered to vote? (Cincinnati Enquirer, 9/2/2016)

The big donors behind all those U.S. Senate ads (Cincinnati Enquirer, 9/2/2016)

Charter school reviews are back on schedule after state Superintendent Paolo Demaria sidesteps rule change controversy (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/2/2016)

Donald Trump promises jobs during Wilmington, Ohio rally: 4 takeaways (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/2/2016)

How John Kasich's snub of Donald Trump could help Rob Portman win re-election (video) (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/2/2016)

Is it too late for Ted Strickland? Ohio Politics Roundup (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/2/2016)

Ohio Democratic Party asks Justice Elena Kagan for help preserving Golden Week (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/2/2016)

Vice President Joe Biden talks up Hillary Clinton in Parma (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/2/2016)

ACLU concerned about FBI access to Ohio records, photos (Columbus Dispatch, 9/2/2016)

Husted rejects all 194,375 signatures on proposed drug price ballot issue (Columbus Dispatch, 9/2/2016)

Ohio Politics Now: Trump, Biden bring dueling messages to Ohio (Columbus Dispatch, 9/2/2016)

Sherrod Brown stops in Columbus (Columbus Dispatch, 9/2/2016)

Trump immigration stance brings 'Build the wall' chant in Ohio (Columbus Dispatch, 9/2/2016)

All Ohio voters to get absentee ballot applications in mail soon (Dayton Daily News, 9/2/2016)

Court may allow lawyers to give advice on medical marijuana in Ohio (Dayton Daily News, 9/2/2016)

Trump to veterans: 'We will stop apologizing for America' (Dayton Daily News, 9/2/2016)

7/23/2018

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Ohio among 4 states to mark lower obesity rate (Toledo Blade, 9/2/2016)

Portman aims to halt illegal drugs in mail (Toledo Blade, 9/2/2016)

Editorials

Conflict at the state medical board (Akron Beacon Journal, 9/2/2016)

Chief: Let us force addicts into treatment (Cincinnati Enquirer, 9/2/2016)

Clamp down on payday lending greed and make it stick in Ohio: editorial (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/2/2016)

Fighting to keep our souls (Toledo Blade, 9/2/2016)

Signs of hope in a shifting week (Toledo Blade, 9/2/2016)

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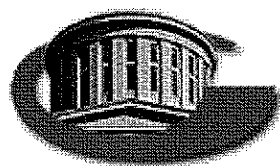
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Ohio News & Opinion For September 6, 2016

News

AP Explains: Ohio is home to 3 disputes over voting issues (Associated Press, 9/6/2016)

As pot law goes into effect, patients must keep waiting (Cincinnati Enquirer, 9/6/2016)

Bill Clinton passes on criticizing Trump (Cincinnati Enquirer, 9/6/2016)

The big donors behind all those U.S. Senate ads (Cincinnati Enquirer, 9/6/2016)

Donald Trump visits Canfield Fair for brief politicking: Mark Naymik (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/6/2016)

Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump kick off their fall campaigns in Cleveland: 6 Labor Day takeaways (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/6/2016)

Hillary Clinton, Donald Trump work for Ohio votes on Labor Day: Ohio Politics Roundup (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/6/2016)

National Democrats pull more money out of Ohio's U.S. Senate race (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/6/2016)

Rob Portman, Ted Strickland get glowing health reports (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/6/2016)

Where were Ohio Republicans during Donald Trump's latest visit? (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/6/2016)

Ohio education official: Kasich administration wanted ECOT audit (Columbus Dispatch, 9/6/2016)

Ohio plays host to rare confluence of Clinton, Trump campaigns (Columbus Dispatch, 9/6/2016)

Ohioans still waiting to learn voting rules this year (Columbus Dispatch, 9/6/2016)

Portman among watchdogs who took dollars from Mylan (Columbus Dispatch, 9/6/2016)

Want to vote this fall? Here's how to make sure you are registered (Columbus Dispatch, 9/6/2016)

Jobs, trade top economic issues in Ohio Senate race (Dayton Daily News, 9/6/2016)

Where do Ohio U.S. Senate candidates stand on abortion, gay marriage? (Dayton Daily News, 9/6/2016)

Clinton rallies thousands in Cleveland park (Toledo Blade, 9/6/2016)

Fact checkers: Anti-Strickland ad isn't true (Toledo Blade, 9/6/2016)

Trump eases tone on illegal immigrants (Toledo Blade, 9/6/2016)

Editorials

Recent advances, familiar challenges for working Ohio (Akron Beacon Journal, 9/6/2016)

Ohio polling data: No surprises here, we have two stinkers to choose (Canton Repository, 9/6/2016)

The spurious claims against voters' Golden Week add up to GOP monkey business: Thomas Suddes (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/6/2016)

Editorial: Student-loan problems compound (Columbus Dispatch, 9/6/2016)

Abortion right is law in Ohio (Toledo Blade, 9/6/2016)

AG should lead police probes (Toledo Blade, 9/6/2016)

Deliberate voting (Toledo Blade, 9/6/2016)

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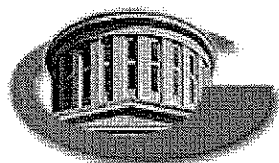
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Ohio News & Opinion For September 20, 2016

News

GOP Ohio lawmaker to resign, take Chamber of Commerce job (Associated Press, 9/20/2016)

At White House, Kasich stumps for Obama trade deal, takes dig at Trump (Cincinnati Enquirer, 9/20/2016)

John Kasich warring with GOP chairman (Cincinnati Enquirer, 9/20/2016)

When friends become foes: Ted Strickland's fundraising woes (Cincinnati Enquirer, 9/20/2016)

How to vote early in Ohio (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/20/2016)

Ohio voters already have requested more than 524,600 absentee ballots for November's election (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/20/2016)

Why Democrats can't take unions for granted in a race against Donald Trump: Ohio Politics Roundup (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/20/2016)

Ohio absentee ballot requests running ahead of four years ago (Columbus Dispatch, 9/20/2016)

Ohio Politics Now: Donald Trump, Sean Hannity to have town hall meeting at Cleveland church (Columbus Dispatch, 9/20/2016)

Blade Slices: Portman speaks Spanish in ad touting job creation (Toledo Blade, 9/20/2016)

Some cities just say no to medical marijuana (Toledo Blade, 9/20/2016)

Editorials

About those crazy school district report cards (Akron Beacon Journal, 9/20/2016)

Who is looking out for the taxpayers? (Cincinnati Enquirer, 9/20/2016)

Abortion appeals by Attorney General Mike DeWine - meritorious or ideological? Editorial Board Roundtable (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/20/2016)

Appealing a good decision (Toledo Blade, 9/20/2016)

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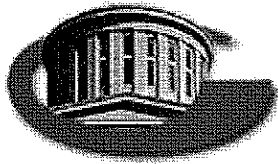
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Draft Substitute Bill Would Remove Most Penalties For Energy Mandate Noncompliance

Inspector General: DYS, Two Other Agencies Improperly Paid Overtime To Exempt Employees

House District 55: New Democrat Challenging Rep. Manning Is Communications Pro Focused On Families

Democrats Ponder Toy Gun Restrictions In Wake Of Officer-Involved Shooting Of Columbus Youth

ECOT Details Funding Agreement In Latest Motion

Portman Expects Committee Vote On Miner Pension Bill, Hopes To Include Opioid Funding In Continuing Resolution

Politics Notebook: Boehner Joins Law Firm; Lawmaker Spots Missing City Official; ACLU Launches Deaf Voter Website...

Education Notes: District's Transgender Lawsuit Heads To Court; CCP Praise Continues; Higher Ed Task Force Filled; Garza To Lead Battelle for Kids...

Agency Briefs: Addiction Treatment Program Expands; AG Files Suit Against Dayton Car Dealer; County Labor Force Numbers Updated; ODNR; MHAS; BWC

Governor's Appointment

Activity Reports

House

Senate

Calendars

Day Planner

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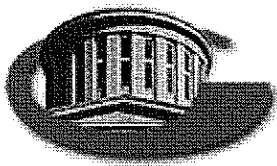
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6K



GONGWER Ohio
The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Volume #85, Report #182 -- Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Draft Substitute Bill Would Remove Most Penalties For Energy Mandate Noncompliance

Sen. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) on Tuesday began circulating to interested parties a new version of his legislation to extend the renewable energy freeze.

The draft, yet to be introduced in the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee, is a potential substitute version of Sen. Seitz's bill (SB 320) that, if passed in its current form, would extend the freeze to 2019.

But the draft substitute, if adopted, includes key changes: it would resume the benchmarks up to the year 2020 while removing all penalties and compliance measurements associated with the standards up to that point.

The result would be a series of unenforceable guidelines until penalties kick in after 2021 - an approach that's unlikely to pass muster in the eyes of opponents and Gov. John Kasich, who has pushed for a "common sense" plan for ending the freeze and implementing attainable standards.

In addition, the draft substitute version would eliminate benchmarks for 2021-22 and 2024-25, and begin noncompliance penalties of the renewable energy benchmarks in 2021 starting at \$45 times the number of credits by which the utility fell short of compliance.

The draft sub bill would also shift back noncompliance fines for solar energy resource benchmarks. Under the substitute, noncompliance in that category would equal fines of \$200 per megawatt hour under compliance for 2020, \$100 per megawatt hour for 2023, and \$50 per megawatt hour for 2026 and following years. In contrast, the current bill requires a \$300 per megawatt hour for years 2014-16 with that penalty to be reduced by \$50 every two years to a minimum of \$50 by 2023.

Sen. Seitz was not available Tuesday to speak about the latest draft, which retains some previous language opponents have objected to, including revised definitions environmental groups claim will water down the meaning of renewable energy and energy efficiency. It also maintains language opponents say would limit Ohio's ability to implement the Clean Power Plan.

Asked about the draft substitute, Kasich spokeswoman Emmalee Kalmbach said the governor's office doesn't comment on pending legislation but that "the governor has been clear regarding the need to set and achieve reasonable energy standards and we'll continue to work with the General Assembly towards that end."

Gov. Kasich had previously called an indefinite extension of the freeze, as proposed by the Energy Mandates Study Commission, "unacceptable." And a spokesperson said earlier this year a three-year extension of the freeze, as Sen. Seitz initially proposed, was "kicking the can down the road." (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 25, 2016)

Samantha Williams, a staff attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council, which opposes an extension of the freeze, said she doubts the draft will gain much traction with the administration.

"All indications are that this bill would be dead-on-arrival at Gov. Kasich's office," Ms. Williams said. "He has said repeatedly that he won't tolerate unserious, watered-down legislation on the clean energy standards and this sub-bill is beyond watered down - it's a non-starter."

In a statement, Ohio Consumers' Counsel Bruce Weston, another opponent of extending the freeze, said the office was still examining the potential impact of the draft language.

"We are reviewing the substitute bill and look forward to participating in the legislative process on these issues that are important to several million Ohio electric consumers," he said.

Sen. Seitz's bill is one of three pending measures offering different approaches on extending the freeze. A bill from Sen. Kris Jordan (SB 325) would eliminate the benchmarks altogether while a bill from Rep. Ron Amstutz would extend the freeze to at least 2027 (HB 554).

Lawmakers face a December deadline by which to act if they want to prevent the resumption of the standards come January. But plenty of unknowns remain heading into the short lame duck session about lawmakers' potential response to that approaching deadline.

Senate President Keith Faber (R-Celina) this month said he expects the Senate will take up the issue when it returns after the election. Sen. Seitz also listed the topic as his top priority heading into the fall, although he acknowledged the long summer recess has hindered discussions on how to proceed. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, September 9, 2016)

But Sen. Larry Obhof (R-Medina) - Sen. Faber's handpicked likely successor for the 132nd General Assembly - said earlier this summer it "remained to be seen" whether lawmakers would have time to tackle the issue this fall or instead pursue a solution early in the next session. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 15, 2016)

Inspector General: DYS, Two Other Agencies Improperly Paid Overtime To Exempt Employees

The Department of Youth Services improperly made more than \$50,000 in overtime payments over a four and a half year period, an investigation by the Inspector General found.

From 2010 to July 2014, DYS paid 30 overtime exempt employees for 1,281.29 overtime hours, totaling \$54,189.40 in payments, according to the report.

DYS referred a request for comment to the Department of Administrative Services, which said it has launched a new auditing process to monitor overtime payments.

"This is an issue we have been working through over the past year to ensure we have the proper safeguards in place," spokesman Marty Berkowitz said in a statement.

"As part of that, we launched a new auditing process where we monitor overtime each pay period. In light of the Inspector General's report, we will use this as an opportunity to remind all agency human resources officers of the state's overtime policy.

The IG did not recommend that DAS seek recovery of the payments, citing the "difficulty in collecting the overtime compensation paid to the employees...due to federal requirements regarding overtime pay and federal, state and local tax issues."

The report, however, did recommend that DAS make sure all agencies, institutions, board and commissions are aware that it is required to approve all written plans extending overtime pay to overtime exempt employees and to create restrictions in the state payroll system limiting the use of overtime codes exclusively to those outlined in approved plans.

The inquiry first began with the Department of Transportation, which referred itself to the IG in April 2015.

That investigation found that from 2013 to 2015, seven overtime exempt employees were paid for 24.7 hours of overtime outside of the winter season when they are permitted to assist with snow and ice removal and collect overtime pay.

The investigation led to a larger probe in which the IG requested from DAS a list of all overtime exempt employees who were paid overtime from July 1, 2010 to July 1, 2015.

An initial review of the list found that 1,319 non-overtime eligible employees at 23 state agencies received overtime pay in the period examined.

Upon further examination it was determined that five agencies were outside the jurisdiction of the IG, four agencies corrected the unauthorized payments, two agencies - the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction and the Department of Public Safety - made no overtime payments outside of DAS approved policies and another nine agencies provided documentation showing that the payments were correctly made.

It was determined that three agencies - ODOT, DYS and the Department of Commerce - made unauthorized overtime payments to exempt employees.

The probe found that DOC paid one overtime exempt employee for 4.8 hours of overtime worked.

DAS and ODOT have 60 days to respond to the recommendations.

House District 55: New Democrat Challenging Rep. Manning Is Communications Pro Focused On Families

After the first Democratic candidate in the race dropped out, Rep. Nathan Manning now faces an Elyria communications professional in his bid for re-election.

Kelly Kraus Mencke, who has worked for years with PR Newswire, is focusing on policies to help families in her bid to unseat the first-term lawmaker.

While she tries to appeal to voters to recapture the formerly Democrat-held seat, Rep. Manning is stressing his commitment to small businesses, workforce development, education and criminal justice reform.

Rep. Manning, 34, who owns a law firm with his sister, said he understands the needs of small business owners and that the goal of government should be to get out of their way. On education and workforce development, he touted legislation he's worked on to improve community colleges, holding up Lorain County Community College as an example for others across the state.

Other community colleges could learn from Lorain County. Rep. Manning said his wife, a teacher, got her master's degree there through its partnerships with other schools.

"Lorain County Community College has been able to keep great education cheap," he said in an interview.

Ms. Kraus Mencke, 35, who is married with two children, said her first priority will be to focus on job growth through building up companies that are already in Lorain County and Ohio. She said she'd like to see more of a support system to help small businesses grow.

"I've always had a passion for making a difference. I've always wanted to do that through policy," she said in an interview.

On education, she said she'd like to see more accountability and transparency among charter schools.

Ms. Kraus Mencke grew up in New York, she said. Her family moved to Ohio when her father, an engineer, was recruited by a company in the area, and she attended Cleveland State University, focusing on urban studies, real estate development and finance. She worked at KeyBank, then moved into communications, and has been at PR Newswire for nine and a half years.

She entered the race after Kevin Watkinson, a Sheffield councilman, dropped out in April, citing family health issues.

"Having a life in public service and working in office is something I've wanted to do since I was a little girl. That all kind of came back after the opportunity to run came up just recently," she said.

Rep. Manning, whose mother is a state senator and father was a state representative, said he plans to continue listening to constituents on what issues are important to them. That includes jobs and the opioid epidemic.

In order to help people find jobs, he said the state needs to work more on training people for the jobs that are open, such as trucking.

"We're heading in the right direction, but now that we're getting more jobs, the focus I think is turning to higher paying jobs," he said. "Workforce development goes into that because there are some great opportunities out there."

A former prosecutor in his home of North Ridgeville, Rep. Manning is also on the Criminal Justice Recodification Committee. He said he hopes the state can move more toward criminal justice approaches that treat drug addicts less like criminals and more like victims of an illness.

"We need to work with them and really focus on trying to get them better, understand this is a disease and not something that's a typical crime," he said.

Ms. Kraus Mencke said she would focus entirely on her work as a state representative.

"What I really feel is this is more of a vocation for me than a job," she said. "I plan to dedicate myself and commit myself to being a representative full-time."

Democrats Ponder Toy Gun Restrictions In Wake Of Officer-Involved Shooting Of Columbus Youth

Two lawmakers are hoping to prevent shootings like the one that recently took the life of a 13-year-old Columbus resident.

Sen. Charleta B. Tavares (D-Columbus) said she is considering introducing legislation to ban the manufacture and sale of such products. Sen. Cecil Thomas (D-Cincinnati), meanwhile, is calling on parents to destroy toy guns that look like real firearms.

Those moves come on the heels of the shooting death last week of 13-year-old Tyre King, who was killed by a Columbus Division of Police officer after he reached for what city officials describe as a BB gun that is nearly identical to an officer's service weapon.

Officers were responding to reports of an armed robbery in the area. Demetrius Emanuel Lee Braxton, who was with Mr. King at the time of the shooting, has been charged with robbery.

"I am...considering legislation to ban the manufacture and sale of imitation firearms that look like actual weapons," Sen. Tavares said in a statement. "There is absolutely no reason why a child should have access to a toy that is indistinguishable from a real gun. These toys are dangerous and they are getting our children killed."

Sen. Thomas on Tuesday called on parents and guardians to destroy any toy weapons that resemble real firearms.

"Although we may have different opinions about this recent tragedy, I think we can all agree that realistic toy guns make many situations worse. I am making a plea for parents and guardians to throw away children's toys that resemble real weapons. Once again an Ohio child has been shot and killed by a police officer who says they believed the child posed a legitimate threat. Children do not understand the danger these imitation weapons pose," he said in a statement.

"I am not commenting on whether the shooting was justified, as I do not have all of the facts. However, I do know we have lost too many children in Ohio and in the nation to this type of senseless, avoidable tragedy."

Sen. Tavares, a former Columbus city council member, also called on the division of police to complete a transparent and thorough investigation of the incident and its policies.

"I call on the Columbus Police Department to do a complete and thorough investigation into all aspects of the shooting including whether or not Tyre was involved with the alleged robbery that took place. While I understand officers face dangerous situations every day, this is an appropriate time to take a look at the Department's policies for incidents involving children and how they can be modified to avoid future tragedies. The Department should also investigate whether officers need further training in de-escalation tactics to avoid the use of force," she said.

"As the investigation goes forward I ask that Safety Director, Ned Pettus and the Columbus Police Department keep the community informed as we attempt to recover and heal from this heartbreaking event," she added.

The shooting of Mr. King comes nearly two years after the officer-involved shooting death of 12-year-old Tamir Rice of Cleveland, who was also carrying an imitation firearm at the time of his death.

ECOT Details Funding Agreement In Latest Motion

The Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow is once again asking a judge to make an immediate ruling on a portion of its lawsuit against the Department of Education.

The state's largest e-school on Tuesday filed a [motion](#) for a partial summary judgement, asking a judge to validate a contract it has with ODE detailing how student attendance and full-time equivalency play into funding decisions.

This is the second time the school has asked Franklin County Common Pleas Judge Jennifer French to take such action. Last month, it sought to have her invalidate the agency's FTE manual that's at the center of the case. (See [Gongwer Ohio Report, August 18, 2016](#))

ECOT's attorney Marion Little argued in the latest motion that any student log-in duration information collected by the department cannot be used to determine FTE and therefore school funding. That's because a 2003 agreement states that the e-school has to prove only that students are being offered a certain number of learning opportunities each year.

"Ignoring this long-standing admonition from the Ohio Supreme Court, ODE is proceeding in violation of the Funding Agreement," he wrote. "It is doing so via its effort to impose on

ECOT an actual duration/participation documentation requirement as a condition to ECOT's FTE funding for the 2015-2016 school year."

ECOT also contends that there was purposefully no end date on the agreement because it was to govern the FTE process on a consistent basis and put the process in line with other traditional schools that must simply prove student attendance to receive funding.

"On its face, the funding agreement's lack of an express durational provision or end date reflects the parties' intent that the agreement's terms were to apply prospectively, without limitation," according to the motion, which points out that ODE did not give notice to terminate the contract, which it could have done.

[Auditor Dave Yost](#) last week said his office had reviewed the agreement between ODE and ECOT and he questioned why the department signed the contract. (See [Gongwer Ohio Report, September 14, 2016](#))

Portman Expects Committee Vote On Miner Pension Bill, Hopes To Include Opioid Funding In Continuing Resolution

Sen. Rob Portman said he hopes to see a bill to shore up pension plans for miners reported by a Senate committee this week, which is when he also plans to seek more funding for the fight against opioid abuse.

The Miners Protection Act, designed to secure pensions and medical plans for retired miners whose plans or companies have gone into bankruptcy, is expected to receive a markup and vote by the Senate Finance Committee this week, Sen. Portman said in a conference call with reporters.

Both Sen. Portman (R-Terrace Park) and Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Avon) have signed onto the bill as cosponsors and spoken out in support. (See [Gongwer Ohio Report, July 1, 2016](#))

"I'm really supportive of this legislation and pleased that it's finally going to a vote in the finance committee," Sen. Portman said.

About 100,000 miners are facing pension cuts at the end of the year, and another 20,000 might lose health care coverage, Sen. Portman said.

"It's a dangerous job and it puts these miners at risk of high rates of diseases like cancer, and so for health care and pensions, the stakes are very high," he said. "Hopefully we'll pass this legislation out of committee with a bipartisan vote on Wednesday before these miners lose their health benefits at the end of the year."

Sen. Portman also said he'd seek additional funding for fighting the opioid epidemic in any continuing resolution for funding the federal government. He said he expected a continuing resolution to fund the government through November's election, and that he'd like to see funding for his Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act included in that.

"At the very least, we've got to fully fund CARA during this funding cycle," he said. "In the CR itself, we have an opportunity to include some funding, and we must do that."

Sen. Portman also touted legislation he recently introduced to complement CARA, which would require more information for packages from other countries being sent into the country through the U.S. Postal Service. Supplies of the powerful and often deadly opioids fentanyl and carfentanil often come from China and other countries, he said, through the mail. (See [Gongwer Ohio Report, September 1, 2016](#))

"All we're asking for is that in the mail system, the packages have the same kind of information that private mail systems like UPS and FedEx have," he said. "What the package is, where it's going."

"I'm hopeful that that legislation will also be included this year in whatever packages go forward," he said.

He also praised President Barack Obama for declaring this week Prescription Opioid and Heroin Epidemic Awareness Week, saying raising awareness of drug abuse is key in fighting the epidemic.

Politics Notebook: Boehner Joins Law Firm; Lawmaker Spots Missing City Official; ACLU Launches Deaf Voter Website...

Former U.S. House Speaker John Boehner has jumped back into the private sector with both feet.

The West Chester Republican was announced Tuesday as the newest "strategic advisor" in the law firm of Squire Patton Boggs. It follows recent news that he had joined on as a director of the tobacco company Reynolds American, the manufacturer of what are reportedly his favorite cigarettes, Camel Ultra Lights.

The law firm, which has 46 offices in 21 countries, said Mr. Boehner would not lobby but rather would advise on global business development. The firm also hired his longtime aides John Criscuolo and Amy Lozupone, and currently employs two other former aides in Dave Schnittger and Natasha Hammond.

"Squire Patton Boggs has one of most established and well-recognized public policy practices in the world, integrating legal counsel with regulatory insight, government relations and strategic advocacy," Chairman and

global CEO Mark Ruehlmann said in a release. "With Speaker Boehner joining our team, we're better positioned than ever to grow our brand throughout the world and to fully capitalize on our integrated global platform."

Mr. Boehner said his new post meshes well with the goals of his former government job.

"I left the private sector and got into public service decades ago because I wanted to help remove government barriers to economic growth and job creation, and that's still the mission that drives me," he said. "My role with Squire Patton Boggs will give me the opportunity to engage with leaders in business and government throughout the world and help them work through the challenges they face, as part of a world-class team."

Missing Person: Sen. Lou Gentile was already known for getting around his sprawling southeastern Ohio district, but a recent incident has his friends calling him "Search and Rescue Lou."

The Democrat recently became a major player in the strange tale of a missing city official from his hometown of Steubenville when, while traveling through the nine-plus county district, he spotted Chris Petrossi wandering a roadway in a different county.

"I was driving on State Route 9 and saw a man walking along the road who looked like Chris Petrossi. I know Chris from Steubenville and have worked on different projects with him in the past," Sen. Gentile told the *News Herald* for a story published Wednesday. "I immediately called Harrison County Sheriff Joe Myers who said he would send deputies to the area. I basically did what anyone else would do in that situation."

Mr. Petrossi was eventually found near where he was sighted by the lawmaker on the following day carrying a portable tent. The city's urban projects manager, who had been missing since Aug. 29, told the city manager that "pressures were building and he had to get away," the paper reported.

Presidential Race: Hillary Clinton's campaign on Tuesday released a new radio ad targeting black Millennials.

Along with encouraging young voters to register, the spot purports to highlight "what's at stake for African American millennials in this election" and "lays out the importance of voting to secure justice, healing and hope in communities of color," according to the Democrat's campaign.

The Clinton campaign on Tuesday kicked off a bus tour of the state's mayors in Dayton with planned stops in Cincinnati, Toledo, Warren, Akron, Cleveland and Columbus. "At each stop the mayors will discuss how their support for Clinton is rooted in her commitment to local communities," the campaign reported.

GOP businessman Donald Trump's campaign derided the effort as the 'out-of-state-mayors' tour.

"The Clinton campaign is bussing a band of out-of-state mayors and local partisans across Ohio to push Hillary's third-Obama-term economic plans, while Hillary herself takes another day off the trail," Trump spokesman Seth Unger said in a statement. "If there was any wonder why Hillary woke up after Labor Day behind in the polls in Ohio, just look at all of the regions in the state where she has yet to campaign."

Mr. Trump's resurgence in Ohio polls, meanwhile, caught the attention of Politico, which reported Tuesday on the state's Republicans coming around to the candidate.

"Despite Gov. John Kasich's refusal to back Donald Trump, a growing number of Ohio Republicans are willing to overlook their differences with the GOP nominee," the online media outlet reported in a story titled "Trump's Ohio Turnaround."

Website for Deaf Voters: ACLU of Ohio on Tuesday unveiled a new website aimed at assisting voters who are deaf or hard of hearing.

"This new voting resource helps deaf voters find answers to the most common voting questions, including registration, appropriate forms of identification, and where and how to cast a ballot in November's general election," the group stated in a release.

"Educating deaf voters on their rights is imperative, as the voting process is geared towards hearing people and could easily exclude the deaf community," Mike Brickner, senior policy advisor for ACLU of Ohio, said in a statement. "Our webpage features four videos that discuss the importance of voting and provide clear instructions about how to navigate through the process. We hope that it will be utilized and shared with Deaf voters throughout the state of Ohio."

Education Notes: District's Transgender Lawsuit Heads To Court; CCP Praise Continues; Higher Ed Task Force Filled; Garza To Lead Battelle for Kids...

Highland Local School District was in court Tuesday asking a judge to ensure federal agencies won't pull funding while a lawsuit against them is pending.

The district filed suit in June against federal education and justice departments, arguing that it does not have to accommodate a student who identifies as transgender by allowing the student to use locker rooms and restrooms used by those of the opposite biological gender.

Attorneys with the Alliance Defending Freedom, who are representing the district's board of education in the case that's currently before the U.S. District Court in Columbus, said the agencies have threatened to withhold the school's federal funding if it doesn't comply with rules that prohibit schools from discrimination against students based on their gender.

"Punishing a school district merely for doing its duty to protect the privacy and dignity of all of its students isn't only unjust, it also makes no sense whatsoever," said ADF Legal Counsel Doug Wardlow, who argued before the court on behalf of the school district Tuesday.

"The federal government has no business holding funding reserved for special needs and underprivileged children hostage simply to strong-arm the district into complying with an unrelated and lawless demand - the demand to give students access to places like locker rooms and showers that are reserved for students of the opposite sex. The court should stop the Department of Education from revoking the district's funding or otherwise punishing the district while its lawsuit proceeds."

College Credit Plus: Following news that 52,000 students took \$110 million worth of college courses in the first year of College Credit Plus, state education leaders began touting the program.

Jack Hershey, president of the Ohio Association of Community Colleges, called the program "one of the most universally popular programs implemented by any agency in the state of Ohio in recent years."

He said the wide interest in taking free college courses during high school points to the concern parents and students have about paying for higher education.

"Governor Kasich and the Ohio General Assembly should be lauded for this innovative program that is meeting the true societal challenge to make college more affordable while providing greater access for all of our students - regardless of their household income, geography or what school district they attend," he said in a statement.

Combining CCP with mid-biennium review bill (HB 474) proposals to expand the "3+1" program that allows students to combine community college and university coursework to earn a degree, Mr. Hershey said, would also provide more affordable avenues to degrees.

Task Force: Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) on Tuesday made the final appointment to a panel that's expected to recommend a model for combining higher education resources.

Matthew Smith, who serves on the North Central State College Board of Trustees, will join the Task Force for Creating Opportunities for Shared Governance on Co-Located Campuses.

Now that the nine-member panel is complete, it's expected to begin meeting to craft recommendations in time for a Nov. 1 deadline.

Senate President Keith Faber (R-Celina) has said the task force and its pending recommendations are one of his priorities as he continues to push higher education institutions to find efficiencies and cost-savings. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, September 16, 2016)

Battelle for Kids: The organization this week announced that Karen K. Garza will become its new president and CEO before next year.

Ms. Garza is the superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools in Virginia, which the organization said is the 10th largest school division in the U.S., serving 186,000 students.

"I am so excited about joining Battelle for Kids," she said in a statement. "I have long appreciated and valued the wonderful support that this great organization provides schools, school systems and state education agencies. I thank the Board of Directors for their confidence, and I look forward to working with them and the outstanding professionals at Battelle for Kids to continue the mission of empowering and supporting educators to advance educational equity and opportunity for all students."

Agency Briefs: Addiction Treatment Program Expands; AG Files Suit Against Dayton Car Dealer; County Labor Force Numbers Updated; ODNR; MHAS; BWC

Eight counties have been added to the Addiction Treatment Program in Ohio, the state announced. The program provides addiction treatment services and other support for people who are enrolled in drug court, have an opioid or alcohol use disorder and are eligible for medication-assisted treatment.

The program, which includes medication-assisted treatment and other clinical services, started in Fiscal Year 2014 and expanded to a total of 14 counties in FY 2016, according to the Mental Health and Addiction Services and Bureau of Criminal Justice.

The expansion adds Butler, Clermont, Lake, Lorain, Lucas, Mahoning, Stark and Trumbull counties.

Allen, Clinton, Cuyahoga, Franklin, Gallia, Hamilton, Hardin, Hocking, Jackson, Marion, Mercer, Montgomery, Summit and Warren counties were already in the program.

Attorney General: Mike DeWine announced a lawsuit against a used car dealer in Dayton who's accused of not delivering titles to buyers.

The suit, filed in the Montgomery County Common Pleas Court, accuses Ashley Alexander, doing business as Alexanders Auto Sales, of failing to deliver titles.

The AG's office said the dealer's failure to do so cost nearly \$11,000 from the Title Defect Rescission Fund, which helped consumers who filed complaints against the dealer.

"When you buy a car, you expect to receive the title. In this case, that didn't always happen," Attorney General DeWine said in a statement. "Our goal is to protect consumers and to bring this seller into compliance with the state's consumer protection laws."

The lawsuit also accuses the dealership of failing to register a business name with the Secretary of State.

Labor Force: Unemployment rates fell in 72 counties, rose in one county and remained constant in 15 in August, according to data released by the state.

Jobless rates in August ranged from 3% in Mercer County to 9% in Monroe County.

Nine counties had rates below 3.5% in August: Mercer, Putnam, Holmes, Delaware, Wyandot, Auglaize, Hancock, Madison and Union.

Five counties had rates above 7%: Monroe, Meigs, Jefferson, Noble and Scioto.

Natural Resources: The number of horizontal drilling permits issued for the Utica shale remained unchanged over the past week at 2,240, according to data from the Division of Oil and Gas Resources.

A total of 1,797 wells have been drilled, with 1,398 wells in production.

Workers' Compensation: Administrator/CEO Sarah Morrison recognized a Lucasville propane company, Arrick's Propane, for efforts to protect workers from injuries.

The company used a BWC grant of more than \$18,000 to purchase equipment, including motorized dollies with a weight capacity of up to 1,000 pounds. The employees can strap a tank or cylinder to the dolly and steer it where it needs to go, increasing productivity over standard dollies.

"We are pleased to form this safety partnership with Arrick's because the proactive steps they're taking now can help prevent injuries in the future," Administrator Morrison said in a statement. "A safer workplace means Arrick's employees will be able to do their job of keeping southern Ohio residents and businesses comfortable during the upcoming cold weather months more proficiently and without injury."

The company delivers propane tanks weighing an average of 175 pounds to residential and commercial customers in 13 southern Ohio counties.

"At Arrick's Propane we are committed to the safety of our employees, the safety of our customers, and the safety of the communities in which we operate," said Josh Greene, operational manager at Arrick's Propane. "This grant has allowed us to reinforce that commitment to the safety of our employees by purchasing safety equipment that we otherwise would not have purchased."

Public Safety: The Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board announced the Westerville Police Department has adopted and implemented state standards for use of force and agency recruitment and hiring.

More than 70 agencies have become certified in the standards, developed last August. Certifications will continue through the year.

Governor's Appointment

Terra State Community College Board of Trustees: Ronald M. Schumacher, Jr. of Tiffin for a term beginning Sept. 19 and ending Dec. 30, 2020


Industrial Commission Nominating Council: Deborah A. Lantman of Milford for a term beginning Sept. 20 and ending Oct. 20, 2018.

State Lottery Commission: Elizabeth D. Vaci of Painesville Twp. for a term beginning Sept. 20 and ending Aug. 1, 2019.

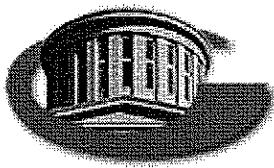
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Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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House Activity for Tuesday, September 20, 2016

INTRODUCED

HB MARIJUANA RECIPROCITY (Koehler, K.) Regarding the Medical Marijuana Control Program and **597** reciprocity agreements. Am. 3796.16

HB LOAN ACT (Terhar, L.) To create the Ohio Consumer Installment Loan Act. Am. 1321.62, 1321.63, **598** 1321.631, 1321.632, 1321.64, 1321.641, 1321.642, 1321.643, 1321.644, 1321.65, 1321.651, 1321.66, 1321.661, 1321.662, 1321.663, 1321.664, 1321.665, 1321.666, 1321.667, 1321.668, 1321.669, 1321.67, 1321.671, 1321.672, 1321.673, 1321.674, 1321.68, 1321.681, 1321.69, 1321.70, 1321.701, and 1321.702

HOUSE SPEAKER'S APPOINTMENTS

Sewage Treatment System Technical Advisory Committee: Dan Lark

Ohio Manufactured Homes Commission: Jim Hauch


Task Force for Creating Opportunities for Shared Governance on Co-Located Campuses: Matthew Smith

17 S. High St., Suite 630

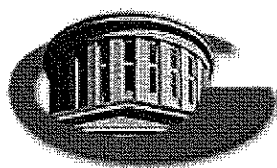
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The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Senate Activity for Tuesday, September 20, 2016


INTRODUCED

SB LOAN ACT (Peterson, B.) To create the Ohio Consumer Installment Loan Act. En. 1321.62, 1321.63, **355**1321.631, 1321.632, 1321.64, 1321.641, 1321.642, 1321.643, 1321.644, 1321.65, 1321.651, 1321.66, 1321.661, 1321.662, 1321.663, 1321.664, 1321.665, 1321.666, 1321.667, 1321.668, 1321.669, 1321.67, 1321.671, 1321.672, 1321.673, 1321.674, 1321.68, 1321.681, 1321.69, 1321.70, 1321.701, and 1321.702

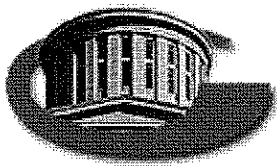
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Scott Miller, President | Alan Miller, Vice President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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GONGWER Ohio
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Daily Activity Planner for Wednesday, September 21

Legislative Committees

No legislative committees scheduled.

Agency Calendar

Aerospace & Aviation Technology Committee, Rm. 121, Statehouse, Columbus, 10 a.m.

Casino Control Commission, 30 East Broad Street, Lobby Hearing Rm., Columbus, 10 a.m.

State Personnel Board of Review, 65 E. State St., 12th Fl., Columbus, 10 a.m.

State Fire Council, Division of State Fire Marshal, 8895 East Main Street, Reynoldsburg, 12 p.m.

Board of Building Appeals, Division of Industrial Compliance, 6606 Tussing Road, Training Room 1, Reynoldsburg, 12:30 p.m.

Event Planner

Sen. John Eklund (R-Chardon) fundraiser, Kirtland Country Club, 39438 Kirtland Road, Willoughby, 10 a.m., (10 am brunch; 11:00am Golf. \$1,000 Breakfast. Golfers pay for their own golf to Friends of John Eklund)

Rep. Ron Young (R-Leroy Township) fundraiser, Due Amici, 65 E. Gay Street, Columbus, 12 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$350 to Friends of Ron Young)

~~Canceled: **Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) golf outing fundraiser**, NCR Country Club, 4435 Dogwood Trail, Kettering, 12 p.m., (12:00pm Lunch, 1:30pm Tee Time; \$1,000 Lunch and Golf | \$300 Lunch to Citizens for Bill Beagle)~~

Rep. Anne Gonzales (R-Westerville) fundraiser, Lexi's, 100 E. Broad Street, Columbus, 4:30 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$350 to Citizens for Anne Gonzales)

Craig Riedel (R-Candidate 82nd House District) fundraiser, Oliver's, 26 N. High Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$200 to Citizens to Elect Craig Riedel)

Sen. Lou Gentile (D-Steubenville) fundraiser, Tony's, 16 W. Beck St., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (\$2,500 - Platinum Sponsor, \$1,000 - Gold Sponsor or \$500 to Friends of Lou Gentile)

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7/24/2018

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ALEC Digital Exchange: Labor Lawsuits, Government Lands

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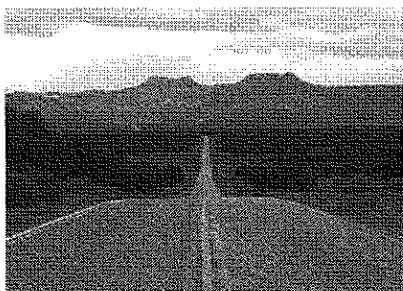
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Events and Education



Battle for Bears Ears

Navajo tribes in southern Utah enjoy free access to the federally owned region called Bears Ears. The land is managed by both the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management through resource management plans. These plans are developed in collaboration with state, local and tribal governments, even though most of the time the federal agencies ignore their concerns. However, a coordinated campaign of out-of-state environmental groups and Indian tribes are trying to make Bears Ears into a national monument. To do this, they are pressuring President Obama to declare the land a national monument [...Read More](#)



Lawsuits Filed to Challenge Department of Labor's New Overtime Rule

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) is facing **fresh challenges** to its new rule regarding overtime pay. This week, two separate lawsuits were filed to challenge the new rule that will impact more than 4 million people, effective December 1, 2016. Currently, employers must pay overtime (time-and-a-half) to employees that earn less than \$23,660 per year. The new rule would more than double this exemption threshold to \$47,476 per year, meaning that employers must pay overtime to any salaried employee making below that amount while effectively demoting these employees to hourly workers. [...Read More](#)

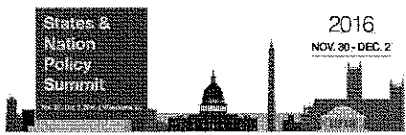


Michigan Leads on Giving Choice to Public Employees

For far too long, supporting workers has been interpreted as **synonymous** with supporting labor unions. Labor unions are happy to keep this conflation alive, but the changing nature of work, the proliferation of highly customizable work agreements, and the realization that a "one size fits all" approach might not serve the best interests of every unionized employee in every situation is challenging that narrative. [...Read More](#)

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Senate Floor Report

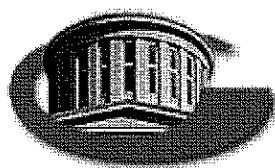
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Senate Activity for Wednesday, September 28, 2016


INTRODUCED

SB 359  **LICENSE PLATE** (Uecker, J.) To create the Down Syndrome Awareness license plate.

PASSED

HB WEEK DESIGNATION (Blessing, L.) To designate the first week of December as "Crohn's and Colitis Awareness 260Week." 30-0**HB LICENSE SUSPENSIONS** (Baker, N., Manning, N.) To modify the law governing the termination or modification of a 300lifetime driver's license suspension or a class two suspension that exceeds fifteen years, to specify that a class one  driver's license suspension for a specified aggravated vehicular homicide offense begins upon the offender's release from prison, and to expand the purposes for which limited driving privileges may be granted during a driver's license suspension.

30-0

SB AWARENESS DAY (LaRose, F.) To designate the fourth Tuesday in September as "Voter Registration Awareness 169Day" and to encourage governmental entities to observe that day. 30-0**SB SUNSET REVIEW** (Jordan, K., Faber, K.) To require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a 329schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the Governor's cabinet.

■ 22-8; Earlier REPORTED-SUBSTITUTE-AMENDED

SB INFANT MORTALITY (Jones, S., Tavares, C.) To provide for the implementation of recommendations made by the 332Commission on Infant Mortality and to authorize pharmacists to administer by injection certain prescribed drugs.

■ 29-1

GOVERNORS APPOINTMENTS CONFIRMED BY THE SENATE

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, chair: Asim Haque. VOTE: 30-0

REFERRED

Agriculture

HB ALCOHOL SAMPLES (Blessing, L.) To allow certain D liquor permit holders to provide free tasting samples of beer, 444 wine, and spirituous liquor to a person who is 21 years old or older and a paying customer of the permit holder.

■

Civil Justice

HB CHILD ABUSE REPORTING (Pelanda, D., Grossman, C.) To require mandatory reporters of child abuse or neglect 63 to notify the county public children services agency when an attorney in fact under a document that purports to grant parental rights requests services from them, to require the agency to investigate the child's placement with the attorney in fact, and to require the agency to file a dependency complaint if it determines that the placement is unsafe for the child.

HB ESTATE LAW (Cupp, R., Rezabek, J.) To revise the law governing decedent's estates by making changes in the Ohio 432Trust Code, the Probate Law, the Uniform Principal and Income Act, the Transfers to Minors Act, and the Uniform Simultaneous Death Act.

HB PROTECTION ORDERS (Boose, T.) To provide that an individual's statutory priority to decide whether or not to 451withhold or withdraw life-sustaining treatment for the individual's relative is forfeited if the individual is the subject of a temporary protection order or civil protection order and the relative is the alleged victim or if the individual and the relative are married and the parties to a divorce, dissolution, legal separation, or annulment proceeding.

HB CHILD ABUSE REPORTING (Sears, B., Ryan, S.) To make changes in the child abuse and neglect reporting law.
493

SB ABUSE REPORTS (Eklund, J.) To provide generally a testimonial privilege for communications between a qualified
350 advocate rendering advocacy services and a victim of sexual violence, menacing by stalking, or domestic violence, to
■ exempt the nondisclosure of that privileged communication from the offense of failure to report a crime, to require a
qualified advocate to report knowledge or reasonable suspicion of child abuse or neglect of the victim except for
privileged communications, and to specify circumstances in which the victim is considered to have waived the
privilege.

SB DIGITAL ASSETS (Oelslager, S.) To adopt the Revised Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act.
358

Criminal Justice

HB CRIMINAL RECORDS (Barnes, J.) To enact the Fair and Accurate Reporting of Criminal Records Law, to require
172 certain business entities that publish criminal record information to ensure that the information is complete and
■ accurate, to provide a procedure by which a subject of published criminal record information may have incomplete or
inaccurate information corrected or removed from the publication, and to provide remedies for the failure of a
business entity to remove or correct incomplete or inaccurate information.

HB RETIREMENT BENEFITS (Dovilla, M., Anielski, M.) To add extortion and perjury and certain federal offenses to the
284 offenses that may result in forfeiture or termination of public retirement system benefits.

HB STRANGULATION (Stinziano, M., Kunze, S.) To prohibit a person from knowingly impeding the normal breathing or
362 circulation of another by strangulation.

HB DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (Sykes, E., Kuhns, C.) To authorize the issuance of dating violence protection orders with
392 respect to conduct directed at a petitioner alleging dating violence, to provide access to domestic violence shelters
■ for victims of dating violence, and to require the Attorney General's victim's bill of rights pamphlet to include a notice
that a petitioner alleging dating violence has the right to petition for a civil protection order.

HB VOYEURISM (Anielski, M.) To include an impaired person as a victim of voyeurism and to include conduct involving
439 an impaired person within the offenses of pandering obscenity involving a minor, pandering sexually oriented matter
involving a minor, and illegal use of a minor in a nudity-oriented material or performance.

HB POLICE DOGS (Schuring, K., Slesnick, S.) To prohibit a person from intentionally killing a police dog in the line of
447 duty.

HB PAROLE ELIGIBILITY (Manning, N.) To provide special parole eligibility dates for persons with an indefinite or life
521 sentence imposed for an offense committed when the person was less than 18 years of age, to require the Parole
Board to consider specified mitigating factors in those cases, and to require notice to the Ohio Public Defender and
prosecuting attorney prior to the parole consideration hearing.

SB PRIVATE IMAGES (Schiavoni, J.) To prohibit the nonconsensual dissemination of private sexual images, to require
353 that certain property involved in the offense be criminally forfeited, and to create certain legal rights and employment
protections of a victim of the offense.

SCRFIREARMS (Yuko, K.) To urge Congress to enact legislation denying firearms and explosives to suspected terrorists.
22

Education

HB ABUSE PREVENTION (Ramos, D., Hagan, C.) With respect to age-appropriate student instruction in child sexual
85 abuse and sexual violence prevention and in-service staff training in child sexual abuse prevention.

HB FINANCIAL LITERACY (Hagan, C., McColley, R.) To require one-half unit of economic and financial literacy in the
383 high school social studies curriculum, to require the Chancellor of Higher Education to prepare an informed student
document for each state institution of higher education, to require the State Board of Education to include information
on the informed student document in the standards and model curricula it creates for financial literacy and
entrepreneurship, and to entitle the act the "Informed Student Document Act."

HB WEEK DESIGNATION (Patterson, J.) To designate the week prior to the week of Thanksgiving Day as "Ohio Public
438 Education Appreciation Week."

HB SCHOOL ACTIVITIES (McColley, R.) With regard to student participation in extracurricular activities and interscholastic athletics.



SB SCHOOL YEAR (Manning, G.) To generally require public and chartered nonpublic schools to open for instruction after Labor Day.



Energy & Natural Resources

SB ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS (Hite, C.) To revise specified laws relating to environmental protection.

333



SR IVORY TRADE (LaRose, F.) To encourage the implementation and full enforcement of rules adopted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service for the protection of the African elephant from the illegal ivory trade.



HCR CLEAN POWER PLAN (Hill, B.) To oppose the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan.

29

HCR HOPEWELL EARTHWORKS (Scherer, G.) To express support for the nomination of the Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks as a United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Site.

33

Finance

HB DATA OHIO BOARD (Hagan, C., Duffey, M.) To create the DataOhio Board, to specify requirements for posting public records online, to require the Auditor of State to adopt rules regarding a uniform accounting system for public offices, to establish an online catalog of public data at data.Ohio.gov, to establish the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program, and to make an appropriation.

HB STATE FINANCING (McClain, J.) To authorize the Treasurer of State to issue revenue obligations of the state for the purpose of making loans to qualifying public entities for their acquisition of permanent improvements through the Treasurer of State's purchase of public obligations of those qualifying entities.

SB OSFC PROJECTS (Eklund, J., Cafaro, C.) To require the School Facilities Commission to give priority for project funding to school districts that resulted from certain types of transfers, mergers, or consolidations and demonstrate an efficient use of facility space as determined by the Commission.

Financial Institutions

SB 335 AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINES (Patton, T.) To regulate non-bank automated teller machines.

Government Oversight & Reform

HB CIVIL FORFEITURES (McColley, R., Brinkman, T.) To modify the laws governing criminal and civil asset forfeitures, to revise the procedures upon a writ of execution of goods claimed by a person other than the defendant, and to establish the offense of receiving proceeds of a drug abuse, theft, or human trafficking offense and permit the state to file a civil action against the person who allegedly committed that offense under certain circumstances.

SB USED TIRES (Hite, C., LaRose, F.) To prohibit the installation of unsafe used tires on certain motor vehicles.

SB STATEHOUSE HEARINGS (Schiavoni, J., Tavares, C.) To require the Ohio Government Telecommunications Service to broadcast live, with video and audio content, all General Assembly committee meetings and to name this act the Wire the Statehouse Act.

SR PLANNED PARENTHOOD (Schiavoni, J.) Honoring Planned Parenthood Advocates of Ohio on the Centennial of Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

HCRWTO RULES (Burkley, T.) To urge the Office of the United States Trade Representative to ensure that no World

10 ■ Trade Organization rules are violated in regard to government funding of the McInnis Cement and the Port-Daniel-Gascons cement plant in Quebec, Canada.

Health & Human Services

HB ■ **NURSES** (Pelanda, D.) To revise the law governing advanced practice registered nurses.
216 ■

HB ■ **PRESCRIPTION REFILLS** (Sprague, R.) To authorize pharmacists to dispense multiple refills of a prescription
285 ■ simultaneously under certain circumstances.

HB ■ **DRUG INJECTIONS** (LaTourette, S.) To authorize a pharmacist to administer by injection certain prescribed
421 ■ drugs.

HB ■ **PALLIATIVE CARE FACILITIES** (Schuring, K.) Regarding palliative care facilities.
470 ■

HB ■ **AWARENESS DAY** (Terhar, L., Johnson, T.) To designate January 31 as 'Omphalocele Awareness Day.'
490 ■

Insurance

HB ■ **VEHICLE INSURANCE** (Henne, M.) To generally prohibit individuals who do not maintain statutory minimum levels of
279 automobile insurance from collecting noneconomic damages for harm sustained in a motor vehicle accident.
■

HB ■ **OVI OFFENSES** (Scherer, G.) To authorize a court to grant unlimited driving privileges with an ignition interlock
388 device to first-time OVI offenders, to expand the penalties related to ignition interlock device violations, to modify the
■ law governing the installation and monitoring of ignition interlock devices, to extend the look back period for OVI and
OVI-related offenses from six to ten years, and to modify the penalties for OVI offenses.

SB HEALTH PLANS (LaRose, F.) To require health plan issuers to release certain claim information to group plan
351 policyholders

Medicaid

SB 357 DRUG PRODUCTS (Hite, C.) Regarding health insurance, Medicaid, and abuse-deterrent opioid analgesic drug
products.

Public Utilities

SB 348 UTILITY RESALES (Bacon, K.) To regulate the reselling of public utility service.

State & Local Government

HB TRAFFIC ARRESTS (Hambley, S., Rezabek, J.) To authorize law enforcement officers of township police districts
378 and joint police districts, and township constables, serving specified small populations to make arrests for motor
vehicle-related violations committed on an interstate highway in the same manner as township law enforcement
officers serving larger populations.

HB MILITARY RECORDS (Perales, R.) To specify that an order for active military service or other documentation
423 regarding the call to order of an individual in the Armed Forces of the United States or the Ohio organized militia is
not a public record.

HB DAY DESIGNATION (Romanchuk, M., Amstutz, R.) To designate February 3 as "Charles Follis Day."
449

SB MONTH DESIGNATION (Tavares, C.) To designate the month of June as "Pride Month."
339

SB PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS (Seitz, B.) To regulate the use of indemnity provisions in contracts related
340 to public improvements.

SB CONCEALED WEAPONS (Jordan, K.) To allow a person who has a concealed handgun license to carry concealed
341 all firearms other than dangerous ordnance or firearms that state or federal law prohibits the person from possessing
and to provide that a person 21 years of age or older and not legally prohibited from possessing or receiving a
firearm by federal law does not need a concealed handgun license in order to carry or have concealed on the
person's person or ready at hand a firearm and is subject to the same laws regarding carrying a concealed firearm
as a person who has a concealed handgun license.

SB WEAPON POSSESSION (Thomas, C.) To grant municipal corporations the authority to impose a ban or restriction
342 on the open carry or concealed carry of any firearm in a publicly secured area established by the municipal
corporation during an event of regional or national significance being held in the municipal corporation.

SB LEGAL MATERIAL (Skindell, M., Seitz, B.) To adopt the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act.
343

SB PRIMARY ELECTIONS (LaRose, F.) To expand the circumstances under which a board of elections or the secretary
347 of state is not required to hold a primary election.

SB GAMING LAWS (Coley, B.) To classify fantasy sports and betting on the outcome of an E sports contest as schemes
356 of chance, and to grant the Ohio Casino Control Commission authority to regulate pools not conducted for profit.

SR TAIWAN (LaRose, F.) To reaffirm support for strengthening and expanding sister-state ties between Ohio and
516 Taiwan, to commend Taiwan's democratic achievements, and to congratulate Madam Tsai Ing-wen on becoming
Taiwan's first female president.

HCRTOXIC EXPOSURE RESEARCH (Green, D.) To urge the United States Congress to pass and the President to sign
28 into law the Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2015.

SCR MISSILE DESTROYER NAMING (Yuko, K.) To urge the Secretary of the Navy to name a guided missile destroyer vessel the O.H. Perry, in honor of Commodore Perry who fought in the Battle of Lake Erie during the War of 1812

Transportation, Commerce & Labor

HB BICYCLE OPERATIONS (Henne, M., Sheehy, M.) To provide that when a motor vehicle passes a bicycle the safe passing distance to the left is three feet, and to alter the protocol for proceeding into an intersection that has malfunctioning traffic lights.

HB TRANSPORTATION LAWS (Young, R., Sweeney, M.) To require the Public Utilities Commission to raise the existing statutorily designated towing and storage fees annually by the percentage increase in the consumer price index, to establish a \$35 fee for the retrieval of nonmedical personal items from a motor vehicle, to modify the civil penalties applicable to violations of the towing law, to modify the calculation of the value of an abandoned vehicle to which a towing service or storage facility seeks to take title, and to make other changes to the towing law.

HB DUI SENTENCES (Cupp, R., Rogers, J.) To authorize a judge that grants limited driving privileges to a second-time OVI offender to order the termination of the mandatory immobilization order.

HB BOARDING SCHOOL ZONE (Patterson, J., Roegner, K.) To authorize a municipal corporation or township to establish a boarding school zone and a special speed limit within that zone.

HB REAL ESTATE SALES (Smith, R.) Relating to real estate brokers and salespersons.

532

SB VEHICLE SALVAGE DEALERS (Eklund, J.) To amend the law regulating motor vehicle salvage dealers.

334

SB ROAD NAMING (Hughes, J.) To designate a portion of Interstate Route 270 in Franklin County as the "Hilliard Patrol Officer Sean Johnson Memorial Highway."

337

SB CALL CENTERS (Schiavoni, J., Gentile, L.) To enact the Consumer Protection Call Center Act of 2016 to require the 344 Department of Job and Family Services to compile a list of all employers that relocate a call center to a foreign country and to disqualify employers on that list from state grants, loans, and other benefits.

SB LICENSE PLATE (Jones, S.) To create the Conquer Childhood Cancer license plate.
345

SB VETERAN ID (Tavares, C.) To provide that any nondriver identification card that is issued to a veteran who is disabled 349 or blind may be issued without an expiration date.

SB SCHOOL ZONES (Tavares, C.) To require school zones to be indicated by signs equipped with flashing or other lights 352 or that indicate the times during which the restrictive speed limit is enforced, and to make an appropriation.

Ways & Means

HB TIF CREATION (Butler, J., Burkley, T.) To establish a procedure by which political subdivisions proposing a tax 12 increment financing (TIF) incentive district are required to provide notice to the record owner of each parcel within the proposed incentive district before creating the district, and to permit such owners, under specific conditions, to exclude their parcels from the incentive district by submitting a written response.

HB TAX EXEMPTION (Buchy, J.) To exempt memberships to gyms or other recreational facilities operated by nonprofit 334 organizations from sales and use taxation.

Click the  after a bill number to track that bill and create email alerts on activity.

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ALEC Digital Exchange: Paris Climate Agreement, Article V Meeting, Dept of Labor Lawsuits

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Digital Exchange



First-Ever Article V Simulation

Former ALEC National Chairman Phil King shares results of last week's first-ever simulation of an Article V Convention of States. This is a process, set out in Article V of the U.S. Constitution, through which states initiate amendments to the Constitution. The Founders' intent was that states have an avenue through which to rein in an overreaching federal government should Congress fail to do so [...Read More](#)



States and Nation Policy Summit Speaker Announcement

Kimberley Strassel

Kimberley Strassel is a member of the editorial board for *The Wall Street Journal*. Ms. Strassel is a regular contributor to Sunday political shows and is the author of *The Intimidation Game*.

Register Before October 31 to Receive Early Bird Pricing for the States and Nation Policy Summit



President Obama Bypasses Congress By Formally Committing U.S. to Paris Climate Agreement

News broke earlier this month that both the **United States and China have agreed to ratify** the Paris Climate Agreement.

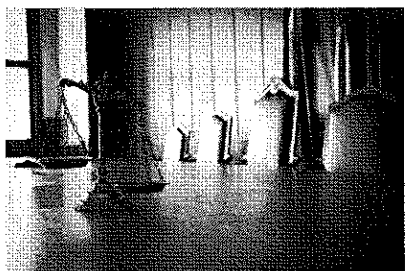
Well, at least China has [...Read More](#)

Orleans Parish District Attorney Deploys Mediation to Resolve Homicide Case

The Orleans Parish District Attorney's office used a potentially **revolutionary method** in reaching a plea agreement with a

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defendant. Augustine is a violent offender and deserved a lengthy prison sentence. However, by involving the victim's family, they were afforded a certain degree of closure [...Read More](#)



Lawsuits Filed to Challenge Department of Labor's New Overtime Rule

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) is facing [fresh challenges](#) to its new rule regarding overtime pay. Last week, two separate lawsuits were filed to challenge the new rule that will impact more than 4 million people, effective December 1, 2016. [...Read More](#)

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ALEC Digital Exchange: Governor Pence, Senator Tillis, Business Taxes

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Digital Exchange



Governor Mike Pence: "I was for ALEC before it was cool."



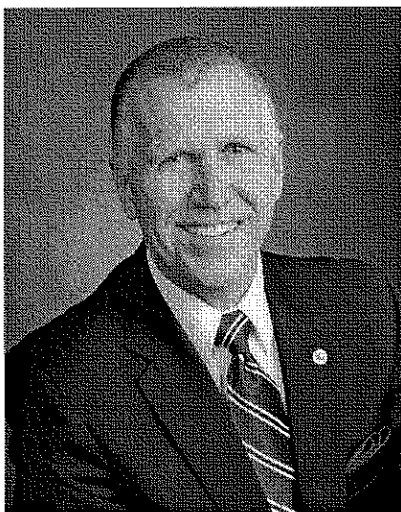
American Legislative Exchange Council

VIDEO: Governor Mike Pence: "I was for ALEC before it was cool."
<https://www.alec.org/article/governor-mike-pence-i-was-for-alec-before-it-was-cool/>

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States and Nation Policy Summit Speaker Announcement

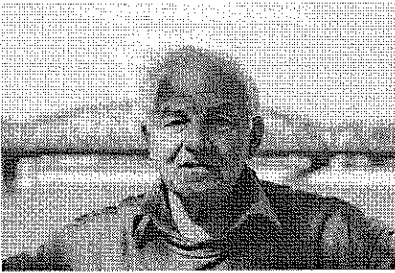
ALEC Alumnus U.S. Senator Thom Tillis (NC)

Fueled by a desire to make a difference in his local community, Thom's involvement in public service began by serving as the PTA president of his daughter's high school and as a member of the Town of Cornelius Board of Commissioners. In 2006, he was elected to the North Carolina House of Representatives and was selected by his peers to serve as Speaker of the House from 2011 to 2014. As Speaker, Thom played an instrumental role in enacting job-creating policies and reforming North Carolina's tax and regulatory codes.

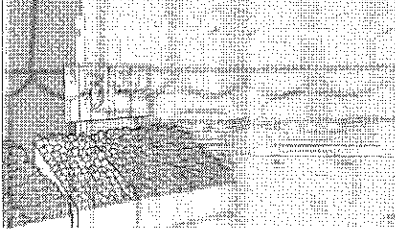
Join Senator Tillis and your friends from around the country.
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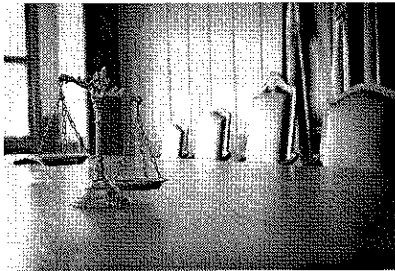


Join us for a special preview conference call with the report authors on Tuesday, October 11 at 11:00 ET. For call details and to RSVP, email Christine Smith at csmith@alec.org.



VIDEO: Businesses Don't Pay Taxes – People Do

The United States is home to **nearly 28 million** businesses – about one for every 12 Americans. Some are large enterprises, but the vast majority are small businesses – and many times have just one employee – the owner. Still, political rhetoric frequently leads to a disconnect between the business as an entity, and the person or people behind them. **[Read More](#)**



New Coalition for Criminal Justice Reform Converge Diverse Perspectives for Change in Tennessee

With an incarceration rate 11 percent higher than the national average, an unusually varied group of Tennessee businesses, social service, and advocacy groups converged under the newly formed Tennessee Coalition for Sensible Justice to reform the criminal justice system. The coalition announced their formation on **September 20, 2016**. The coalition, expecting to work on a wide array of issues such as driver's license reform and juvenile justice, includes the American Civil Liberties Union, the Tennessee Association of Goodwills, the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce and the Beacon Center of Tennessee. **[Read More](#)**

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Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

ALEC Center to Restore the Balance of Government

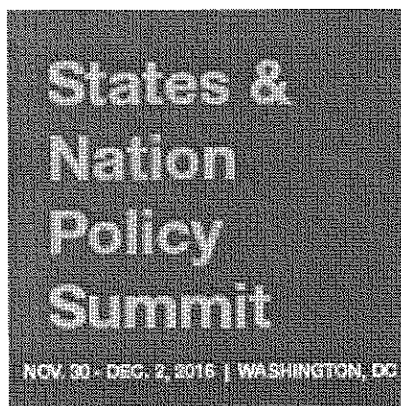
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Events and Education



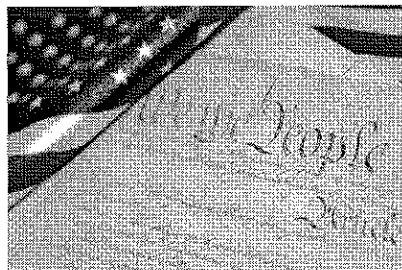
Early Bird Registration Ends October 31

Register today to secure the best prices for the States and Nation Policy Summit, November 30 - December 2.

Join Kimberley Strassel, *Wall Street Journal* editorial board member and author of *The Intimidation Game*; U.S. Senator Thom Tillis; and your friends from around the country in Washington, D.C.

Book your hotel room today.

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Simulated Article V Amendments Convention Provides an Important and Reassuring Window into the Future

Last month in Williamsburg, Virginia the Convention of States project hosted a simulated Article V amendments convention. The agenda was modeled after the application developed by Convention of States and has been adopted by eight of the 34 states needed for Congress to call a real amendments convention. The application was also adopted in 2015 as ALEC model policy which can be **accessed here**. One hundred thirty-seven delegates representing all 50 states participated in this important, democratic exercise.

Read More



Cutting the Gordian Knot

On June 23, the people of Great Britain voted to leave the European Union in a move colloquially known as Brexit. **Read here for an excellent overview** of the federalism underpinnings of the British peoples' decision. In the coming months the UK government will need to devise a plan to extricate itself from the EU, and given the amount of economic and legal integration that has already taken place Brexit will likely prove to be an exceedingly complicated process. Iain Murray, Vice President for Strategy at the Competitive Enterprise Institute co-authored a guide on measures that the UK should take to ensure that Great Britain's exit from the EU advances as smoothly as possible. **You may access this white**



Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

Ohio Report, Friday, October 28, 2016

1 message

Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com>
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Fri, Oct 28, 2016 at 6:31 PM

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OHIO REPORT FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

Both Sides See Chance To Make Gains In Senate In Final Days Of Campaign

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Advocates Praise Decline In Uninsured Children After Obamacare

Third Frontier Commission Awards \$67.4 Million; ODNR; Labor Force; White House; AG; OEC; SOS

Goodyear Posts Third-Quarter Sales Declines; TimkenSteel Losses Continue; M/I Homes; Owens Corning; A. Schulman; PolyOne

Governor's Appointments

Supplemental Agency Calendar

CALENDARS

Day Planner

Event Planner

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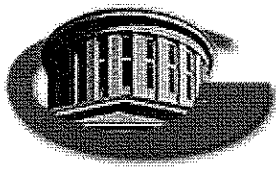
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GONGWER Ohio
The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Daily Activity Planner for Saturday, October 29- Monday, October 31

Legislative Committees

Sunday, January 1

2020 Tax Policy Commission, 2020 Tax Policy Commission (Chr. Peterson, B., 466-8156, Chr. Schaffer, T., 466-8156), South Hearing Rm., 10 a.m.

- Testimony regarding tax policy in Ohio as well as discuss the Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credit report the Commission is to issue.

Agency Calendar

Monday, October 31

Tax Credit Authority, 77 South High Street, 31st Floor, South A, Columbus, 10 a.m.

Controlling Board, North Hearing Rm., Statehouse, Columbus, 1:30 p.m.

Event Planner

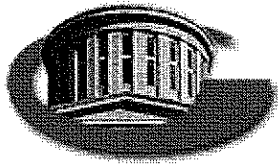
No events scheduled.

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GONGWER Ohio
The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Event Planner

Tuesday, November 1

Miami University Alumni reception to welcome President Greg Crawford, Condado's, 132 S. High St., Columbus, 5 p.m.

Rep. Theresa Gavarone (R-Bowling Green) fundraiser, Holiday Inn French Quarter, 10630 Fremont Pike, Perrysburg, 5 p.m., (Host: \$1,000; Sponsor: \$500; Patron: \$250 to Citizens for Gavarone)

Tuesday, November 8

Election Day

Thursday, November 10

Impact Ohio post-election conference, Greater Columbus Convention Center, 400 N. High St., Columbus, (www.impactohio.org)

Monday, November 14

4th Annual Ohio Statehouse Family Feud, Renaissance Columbus Hotel, 50 N. Third St., Columbus, 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, December 1

Lobbyists can begin renewing Legislative, Executive, and Retirement System registrations

Friday, December 16

Deadline to file post-general campaign finance reports

Saturday, December 31

All lobbying registrations expire in OLAC (legislative, executive, and retirement system)

Sunday, January 1

Lobbyists/Employers can begin filing September-December 2016 Activity & Expenditure Reports

Lobbyists/Employers can begin filing September-December 2016 Activity & Expenditure Reports

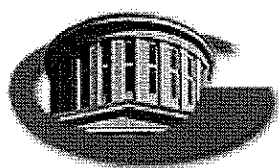
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GONGWER Ohio
The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Volume #85, Report #209 -- Friday, October 28, 2016

Both Sides See Chance To Make Gains In Senate In Final Days Of Campaign

In the final stretch of the general election campaign, both sides of the battle for seats in the upper chamber see positive signs.

Republicans see an opportunity to expand their historic majority by knocking off an incumbent in an Appalachian district where real estate mogul Donald Trump is expected to fare well.

Democrats think they have an opportunity to cut into that majority by knocking off two non-incumbent candidates running in suburban districts where Mr. Trump is expected to perform worse than Republican presidential candidates historically have.

Yet underscoring the impacts of the majority-driven reapportionment process in Ohio, none of the other Senate contests this year are considered especially competitive even though all of the even-numbered districts in the 33-seat chamber are up for grabs. Three Republicans, who control the chamber by a 23-10 margin, are running unopposed on Nov. 8.

In the 30th Senate District where Sen. Lou Gentile (D-Steubenville) faces retired Navy SEAL Frank Hoagland, Republicans hope that Mr. Trump's strength with working class voters will help to topple the incumbent. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, August 19, 2016)

"We find ourselves in a feeling of extremely positive momentum in that district and I would very much qualify it as in play," Sen. Dave Burke (R-Marysville), chairman Republican Senate Campaign Committee, said in an interview. "It's probably the only seat where we have seen an impact from the national race."

Mr. Hoagland has benefitted from nearly \$400,000 in in-kind contributions from the RSCC. From April 15 to Oct. 19 he raised \$34,715 and spent \$33,364. He has just \$7,708 heading into the final days of the campaign, according to pre-general campaign finance reports.

Sen. Gentile, on the other hand, has raised \$419,837 and spent \$504,116. He has \$303,554 on hand. He has also received \$85,260 in in-kind contributions from Senate Democrats.

Zac Kramer, executive director of the Senate Democratic Caucus, said Sen. Gentile's tireless campaigning will push him across the finish line in the race.

"We're always going to keep our eye on Sen. Gentile but he's worked incredibly hard," he said.

Mr. Kramer said the money that the RSCC has poured into the race has been used to paint Sen. Gentile as an enemy of the coal industry.

"They're basically running negative ads and making up claims about Lou's record," he said. "It's the same thing they did four years ago."

But Sen. Burke said Sen. Gentile has tied himself to the hip of Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton, who said her administration is "going to put a lot of coal miners and coal companies out of business."

Mr. Hoagland said he believes he is doing "extremely well" in the race, and pointed to a recent fundraising pitch for Sen. Gentile sent by U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (R-Avon) as evidence.

"Obviously we're doing extremely well with the last statement Sherrod Brown put out," he said.

Sen. Gentile said the Republican's attempt to nationalize the race will not work in the end.

"They're trying to nationalize every race from dogcatcher to the Statehouse. But people know my work. This is a local race," he said.

In one of the two suburban districts that Democrats hope to flip from red to blue, Republicans have hammered Cathy Johnson, president of the South-Western City School District's Board of Education, in her race against Rep. Stephanie Kunze (R-Hilliard) in the 16th Senate District (See Gongwer Ohio Report, August 29, 2016), saying in a radio ad that she wants to send education dollars earmarked for central Ohio to places like Youngstown and areas of Ohio bordering West Virginia.

Democrats sent a cease-and-desist letter to the stations airing the ad.

"They are just making up lies about Cathy's record," Mr. Kramer said.

Sen. Burke said Republicans are just drawing a contrast in the race, which he said Democrats have failed to do.

Rep. Kunze has also benefited from \$136,295 in in-kind contributions, mostly from the state GOP. She also raised \$159,304, spent \$138,981 and has \$81,298 on hand.

Mr. Kramer said Democrats during the campaign have pointed to the Republican's contributions from William Lager, founder of the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow.

Ms. Johnson's pre-general election campaign finance report was unavailable by publishing deadline Friday.

In the other suburban district seen as competitive, former lawmaker and businessman Matt Dolan faces Emily Hagan, a staff attorney in the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, August 30, 2016)

Both sides say that race has been less negative. However, Sen. Burke said Ms. Hagan "has been very weak in telling any kind of contrasting story" while Mr. Dolan has been effective in telling his story to voters in the 24th Senate District.

"People are very much ginned up on independent business owners," he said.

But Mr. Kramer said the key in the two suburban districts is tying the Republicans to the business owner at the top of the ticket. He said polling data has shown that GOP voters in those districts are less likely to support down-ballot Republican candidates if they know those candidates support Mr. Trump.

"We have a great opportunity to target voters with a message that these guys support Trump," he said.

Mr. Dolan has raised \$295,060 and spent \$207,526. He has \$95,427 on hand. He has also received \$659,382 in in-kind contributions, most of which came from the RSCC.

Ms. Hagan has \$28,368 on hand after raising \$97,870 and spending \$136,407.

Mr. Burke said the GOP's closing argument in its push to expand its majority will be about the progress the state has made in recent years.

"I think it's a strong record and it's one that is hard to counter," he said.

Mr. Kramer said Democrats will rely on what they believe is a superior ground game.

"I think we have an advantage in targeting and our field game," he said. "That's how Democrats win and we know how to do it."

Republicans Intent On Maintaining Supermajority Don't Hold Back In Campaign Ads

Significant fundraising advantages and a sizeable majority in the General Assembly haven't stopped Republicans from coming out strong against their Democratic opponents for House seats this election season.

Democrats say this year is the worst in recent memory for attacks made on their candidates, which is somewhat of a surprise given it's unlikely they will significantly dent the historic GOP majority.

Seemingly overmatched challengers, for example, have been branded as tax-hikers in a wave of attack ads despite their lack of any legislative experience. And given the fact that recent campaign finance reports indicate House Republicans still had \$4 million in the bank after burning through more than that total over the last few months (See Gongwer Ohio Report, October 27, 2016), the week before the Nov. 8 election promises to bring more of the same.

Pointing to what's been described as the "Trump Effect" on this year's election, Republicans say they can't afford to play it too safe in their efforts to protect their strong House majority.

Brad Miller, spokesman for the Ohio House Republican Organizational Committee, said campaign support has been especially targeted to suburban areas that would normally skew right, but which have returned polls showing they're not backing the party's presidential nominee.

"This has been a political year that is unlike any other really than we've seen, so we don't want to take anything for granted," he said in an interview.

"Donald Trump doesn't seem to have very strong support in some of these suburban areas like Franklin County like he has in more rural areas out in the state, so if there are people who do not want to vote for Donald Trump, we don't want that to trickle down to the lower races on the ballot," he added.

That explains heavy spending in races that were previously considered longshots for Democrats, he said. Those races include the 21st District where Democrat Ryan Koch is running against Rep. Mike Duffey (R-Worthington), and the 28th District where Democrat Jessica Miranda is challenging Rep. Jonathan Dever (R-Cincinnati).

While the party has paid for positive advertisements backing their candidates, about a third of the television spots - which have been uploaded to the OHROC YouTube channel - take shots at Democratic candidates.

A common theme of the arguments is that Democratic candidates want to raise taxes and a handful of commercials and mailers have called attention to unpaid taxes.

"Anybody who wants to come to Columbus to the Statehouse and shape the state tax policy, their own tax history and tax record deserve to be viewed by the public," Mr. Miller said.

However, the tactic has backfired in at least two instances. In two districts, Republican candidates were also found to have unpaid taxes after attacks were made on Democratic candidates.

Aaron Fisher, executive director of the Ohio House Democratic Caucus, said his party had collected tax information on Republicans but didn't feel it warranted attack ads and chose not to use it until provoked.

"They've got their tried-and-true, poll-tested attack lines that they know resonate well and there are no repercussions anymore for lying in campaigns, so they're going out and saying whatever they want and they are

ignoring the fact that they're the ones responsible for the polices that are hurting 11.6 million Ohioans every day," he said of Republicans.

He, in part, was referring to a federal court ruling that blocked the Ohio Elections Commission from holding hearings on allegations of fraudulent campaign statements.

Although some attacks remain the same, there are others that have crossed new and troubling lines, Mr. Fisher said.

He said he's particularly "disgusted" by mailers that question 95th District candidate Ginny Favade's interest in holding rapists accountable because she missed a vote to fire a county official who had been accused of sexually assaulting a child. (*See separate story*)

Mailers that explain America would be "Godless" under 94th District candidate Sarah Grace are also in poor taste, Mr. Fisher said. The ads were prompted by comments she made that she supports a separation of church and state.

In the 37th House District, Republicans have labeled Casey Weinstein as anti-military. The Democrat who is challenging Rep. Kristina Roegner (R-Hudson) is linked to a lawsuit alleging that the U.S. Air Force Academy imposed on religious freedoms by promoting Christianity.

"Unfortunately, this is the new political landscape that we're in. Donald Trump has come in and totally changed the game. It's OK to do these things," Mr. Fisher said of the negative ads.

"They're on heavy defense," he added. "They're seeing these numbers. They know Donald Trump is tanking them in the suburbs and they're doing everything they can."

Linking their Republican opponents to Mr. Trump has been a key strategy for Democrats, who've been making the most of their relatively thin fundraising totals by focusing on voter interaction and local news coverage to promote candidates.

Likewise, Mr. Miller said OHROC doesn't pass up on opportunities to point out when Democrats are aligned with presidential nominee Hillary Clinton or U.S. Senate candidate Ted Strickland - especially in districts where those candidates have high unfavorability ratings.

"With that, they also align themselves with the policies that we believe hurt Ohio families during the tough economic times of about five or six years ago," he said.

The only notable attempt made to smear a Republican candidate was when the Ohio Democratic Party alleged that the vehicle Rep. Roegner used for state business had expired registration tags, Mr. Miller said. While the latter was true, the incumbent said she never claimed mileage on that vehicle.

Accused Child Rapist At Center Of Campaign Attack In House Race

Ohio Democrats say a recent campaign mailer from the Ohio Republican Party went too far in attempting to portray a Statehouse hopeful as neglecting her duty regarding the firing of an accused child rapist.

The mailer distributed this week comes as new fundraising filings show Belmont County Commissioner Ginny Favade outraised incumbent Republican Rep. Andy Thompson of Marietta in the nearly 50/50 district.

It's one of several examples of negative ads that have mostly hit Democrats in legislative races this cycle. (*See separate story*)

The flier cites meeting minutes to show Ms. Favade's absence at an emergency meeting where commissioners voted to terminate the Belmont County employee.

"A government employee was accused of being a rapist," the mailer reads. "County commissioners called an emergency meeting. Action had to be taken. Where was Ginny Favede?"

Ms. Favede said her absence was due to a business trip to Columbus that day where she represented Belmont County at a meeting of the County Commissioners Association of Ohio. She and the House Democratic Caucus, who said the candidate was in touch with her colleagues, took strong objection to Republicans' insinuation she failed to support the termination of the employee in question.

"I am highly regarded as a children's advocate and disgusted that anyone would utilize this in this manner," said Ms. Favede, who lists helping found a children's advocacy center in Wheeling, W.V., in 2003 and a satellite office in Belmont County among her accomplishments.

"Unfortunately, when politicians choose to politicize a child rape, they are re-victimizing that child. I believe the people should expect more of their elected officials," she said. "I am greatly disappointed and the actions and the choices of Representative Andy Thompson."

Rep. Thompson said he "had no connection" to the mailer.

"I tried personally to keep it on a positive level," he said of his campaign. "We draw contrast, but we don't really get engaged in that kind of thing so I can't really take credit for that. I wouldn't want to take credit for that."

He said he is only "vaguely" aware of the situation, and couldn't comment on the mailer's claims.

"If there's something they're saying that's untrue, I would denounce that," Rep. Thompson said. "If there's something that happens to be the truth, but it's uncomfortable, that would be a different situation."

ORP spokeswoman Brittany Warner defended the mailer.

"Ginny Favede might have went to Columbus for 10:00 a.m. meeting, but that doesn't explain why she was absent from a 4:45 p.m. emergency meeting in Belmont County," Ms. Warner said. "This mail piece is factual and questions her absence on a very serious matter in Belmont County."

House Democratic Caucus Executive Director Aaron Fisher described that take as a "pivot."

"It's totally ignoring the fact that you're attempting to score political points after a child has been a victim of sexual assault," he said.

Mr. Fisher blasted the flier, adding that, "Politics truly do not get any dirtier and lower than this."

"Not only is Thompson seeking to benefit from these terrible and heartbreaking circumstances, but he is misrepresenting the teamwork and tough decisions of three Belmont County commissioners as inattentive when, in fact, their efforts kept the community safe while simultaneously handling all other county business," Mr. Fisher said.

Ms. Favede said that in the face of negative campaign ads from Republicans, she's adopted a quote from Michelle Obama: "When they go low, we go high."

But whether that mantra - popularized in recent weeks by Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton in her campaign against GOP nominee Donald Trump - will work for Ms. Favede in the Trump-friendly coal country district remains to be seen.

Meanwhile, pre-general election filings submitted Thursday gave Ms. Favede the advantage in the most recent filing period - raising \$65,467 compared to Rep. Thompson's \$51,504. In addition, Ms. Favede reported having \$54,206 in cash on hand, which is twice the \$26,167 on hand Rep. Thompson reported.

Ms. Favede spent \$72,442 during the period, including sending \$60,000 to the Ohio House Democratic Caucus in support of her campaign. Rep. Thompson spent nearly the same amount - \$69,584, including \$45,000 to the Ohio House Republican Organizational Committee.

Most of Ms. Favede's largest contributions came from union groups, while Rep. Thompson earned just one donation over \$1,000 - a \$10,000 gift from frequent Republican donor Ginni Ragan.

Ms. Favede said the level of attacks directed at her so far attest to the strength of her candidacy in a highly-competitive priority district.

"I have a strong reputation of being a hard worker, being honest, working across the aisle and getting things done and I think that resonates," she said.

And Rep. Thompson said he'll continue to keep his campaign focused on the issues at hand.

"My preference is to focus on what I'm doing and my record," Rep. Thompson said.

Republicans Hopeful In Solidly Democratic Columbus House District

Despite going up against a Democratic candidate with strong community ties and a large fundraising advantage, Republicans say they are confident in their ability to pick up a seat representing a portion of Franklin County that's never been in their possession.

That's because they're fielding a moderate candidate who's well known for his contributions to the Columbus area as the founder of companies rooted in social responsibility and a board member for a number of local non-profits.

Republican John Rush is competing against Democrat Adam Miller to take over the 17th House District seat currently held by Rep. Mike Curtin (D-Marble Cliff).

Mr. Miller is the odds-on favorite to win because the district is securely on the left, with a long track record of electing Democrats to office. But, Mr. Rush, 42, said he thinks his experience and aspirations will resonate with voters.

As the founder of businesses that provide jobs to individuals with criminal records and who are recovering addicts or have been victims of domestic violence, he said he is passionate about growing the economy without leaving anyone behind.

"The issues I emphasize the most, the hard Ds and the hard Rs like," he said, particularly referring to his interest in sentencing reform and post-release control changes, which could save taxpayer dollars by reducing prison costs, but also create pathways to independence for those involved.

"What I like about it is this is me. I don't feel like I have to" tailor messages to different audiences, Mr. Rush said.

However, having won a competitive primary, Mr. Miller said he's confident that he's personally reached out to more voters than his opponent in the past year. To top it off, he said he's already a familiar face to many in the district because he grew up there.

"I'm just really active in west side and Hilltop organizations and it's really a pleasure to follow your dad and your grandfather and your family in community service to that community," he said.

Mr. Miller, 50, said he'd like to help the district by pushing for: The creation of a standing legislative committee focused solely on drug addiction; financial reimbursements for active community block watches; and funding for code enforcement that decreases the number of blighted homes.

A lieutenant colonel in the Army Reserve, he said he's also interested in building on work he's done to assist veterans in the state by modernizing the veterans service commissions and ensuring that tax money directed toward them directly serves veterans.

Current law allows for any unspent money to go back into the general revenue fund at the end of the year, he said.

"Traumatic brain injury, mental health, reemployment retraining, benefits assistance, there are just so many things we can do to help veterans and their families. I'd like to see that loophole closed," Mr. Miller said.

Although he's now an attorney, Mr. Miller started his career as a teacher and previously served on the Grandview Heights City School Board, making education a top priority for the candidate as well.

He said he'd like to see the next biennial budget include funding for state provided preschool for three year olds as well as gifted education and a provision that limits class sizes.

"With the significant rainy day fund surplus we have now, I'd like to see those dollars reinvested in local government in our libraries and in education," Mr. Miller said.

Meanwhile, Mr. Rush, who served in the Marine Corps, said if he's elected, he would focus on shaping policy that highlights "how business can be a means to create positive social outcomes."

Incentivizing businesses to retain employees with challenging backgrounds would get more people into jobs and out of the criminal justice system, he said

Mr. Rush said he'd also like to see more money spent on vocational training, mental health support and addiction treatment than prisons.

In his district, specifically, he said he'd like to revitalize sites that were once home to Westland Mall, Cooper Stadium and Columbus Castings.

"I think the first step is learning what do the current stakeholders want and then working from there in terms of negotiating," he said. "It's important that the community has a voice."

In the five years he's been living in his district and running businesses, Mr. Rush said he's gotten to know countless central Ohioans who've faced struggles and are looking to build better communities and lives. He said he'd bring their perspectives to the Statehouse.

"There are a lot of folks that are in the Statehouse that they're great attorneys, but they haven't had a lot of experience on the streets with people," he said. "I would be the kind of legislator that wouldn't be afraid of bringing the streets to the Statehouse."

Attorneys Call Into Question State's Latest Execution Protocol

The state's latest execution protocol runs afoul of the U.S. Constitution's prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment, attorneys representing death row inmates argue in the latest court filing in a case that put a hold on the death penalty in Ohio.

While raising several concerns with the new protocol, the attorneys take particular issue with the use of midazolam as one of the three drugs to be used in the process.

The court filing alleges that there is a high likelihood that the drug will fail to render the condemned inmate "insensate or will wear off" before the two other drugs can be administered.

"Unlike pentobarbital and sodium thiopental, midazolam is not a barbiturate. It is a benzodiazepine, which can induce sedation and amnesia, but one can still consciously experience one's surroundings and feel severe pain

and horrific stimuli while under sedation using midazolam," the filing in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio reads.

"Based on known scientific information regarding its mechanism of action, midazolam is unable to ensure that Plaintiff will be, and will remain, in a state in which he will be unable to be aware and experience pain and suffering."

The use of the drug could lead to a death similar to suffocation, according to the court filing.

The "use of midazolam in their execution protocol creates a substantial risk of air hunger and/or suffocation. Air hunger is the inability to satisfy the physiologic and psychologic urge to breath, similar to suffocation. It is the inability to take a breath to satisfy the body's involuntary drive to breathe. Air hunger and/or suffocation is a terrifying, horrifying, and painful experience," the filing reads.

The court filing also says that Kentucky and Arizona have stopped using the drug in executions due to similar concerns.

The new protocol, unveiled earlier this month in a court filing, calls for the use of midazolam, a paralytic and potassium chloride. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, October 3, 2016)

At the time, Dan Tierney, a spokesman for Attorney General Mike DeWine, said he fully expected attorneys representing death row inmates to seek another preliminary injunction in the case, which began after the 2014 execution of Dennis McGuire, who gasped for air at times over the course of a 25-minute process carried out for the first time in Ohio with a two-drug cocktail.

In the wake of Mr. McGuire's execution, which the state said caused no pain, a federal judge in May 2014 issued a moratorium on the death penalty in Ohio, which was later extended until Jan 15, 2015. The state later announced that it would delay all executions until 2017 at the earliest.

The state is scheduled to execute Ronald Phillips, who was convicted of the 1993 murder of a 3-year-old girl, on Jan. 12, 2017. He is one of 26 people scheduled to be executed by the state in the coming years.

The state is scheduled to file a response to the motion for a preliminary injunction by Nov. 18.

Arguments Set In Traffic Camera Case; Rhoden Record Dispute Continues; ACLU Opposes Immigrant Prison Plan

The state's high court will have the final say on a law that gutted the use of traffic cameras by municipalities.

The Ohio Supreme Court has agreed to hear oral arguments in a case brought forward by the city of Dayton alleging the law is unconstitutional. (Docket)

Oral arguments are scheduled for Jan. 10.

The law was upheld by the Second District Court of Appeals. However, there is a split on the appellate level because the Sixth District Court of Appeals struck down the law in the case of a challenge brought by the City of Toledo.

The court has agreed to hear the Toledo case and another challenge brought by the city of Springfield, but has held both of those cases for the decision in the Dayton case.

The legislation (SB242, 130th General Assembly) requires an officer to be stationed at the site of a traffic camera at all times. Municipalities have argued that the measure makes it too costly to utilize traffic cameras and is a violation of Home Rule.

Records Dispute: One of the state's largest newspapers has asked the Ohio Supreme Court to not dismiss its case over a public records dispute.

In response to a motion to dismiss filed by Attorney General Mike DeWine's office, *The Columbus Dispatch* argues that the Pike County Coroner's Office is illegally withholding records related to the murder of eight family members in April.

The newspaper called the AG's Office 16-page motion to dismiss a "smoke and mirrors approach."

"Confronted with the clear and unambiguous statutory provision, Respondents resort to a number of misdirection ploys, including misapplying the basic rules of statutory construction, citing inapposite law construing statutory language now superseded three times, and citing inapplicable exemptions, all in an attempt to rewrite the law to serve their purposes," the newspaper writes in the court filing.

The newspaper is seeking the final autopsy reports of the eight individuals murdered in the still unsolved case. AG DeWine, whose office is leading the investigation, has argued that they are investigatory records and their release could compromise his office's ability to bring those responsible to justice.

However, citing previous AG's Office advisory opinions, the newspaper argues that a coroner is not a law enforcement officer.

The two sides previously underwent unsuccessful mediation in the case.

Immigrants: The ACLU of Ohio is calling on the Department of Homeland Security not to utilize a private prison in Youngstown as an immigration detention center.

"Incarcerating thousands of immigrants in a private prison before deporting them is unjust and allowing a corporation to profit from it is a travesty," Mike Brickner, senior policy director, said in a statement. "The DHS's decision to partner with private prisons sends a horrible message about profiteering at the expense of individuals seeking asylum."

The Department of Justice recently announced that it would no longer use private prisons, and the ACLU of Ohio called on local legislators to ask that negotiations between DHS and the Corrections Corporation of America end.

"During ICE detention, these people have been subject to abuse and mistreatment," Mr. Brickner said. "Incentivizing private companies to detain people for profit only exacerbates our criminal justice system problems. To allow more people to be incarcerated for a profit in Ohio sends our state in the wrong direction."

Property Valuation: The Ohio Supreme court has unanimously affirmed a Board of Tax Appeals decision to accept a \$9.2 million property valuation of New Albany Commons for tax year 2005.

In a unanimous per curiam decision, the court found that the BTA's determination was not unreasonable or unlawful.

The valuation was challenged by Columbus City Schools Board of Education, which argued it should have been closer to the \$13.6 million figure originally set by the county auditor, the court reported.

However, the apartment complex hired its own appraiser that presented evidence leading to the lower figure.

"The BOE had every opportunity to present evidence of its own to impugn the Horner appraisal but failed to do so," the opinion read. "Horner gave his reasons for leaving data out of the appraisal report along with his reasons for using that data in forming his opinion of value, and the BOE has not established the unreasonableness or unlawfulness by showing an abuse of discretion in the BTA's decision to credit Horner's testimony and report."

Bar Exam: The high court on Friday released July bar exam results.

Of the 995 applicants who took the exam in July, 701, or 70.5%, passed, the court reported.

Advocates Praise Decline In Uninsured Children After Obamacare

Advocates this week credited the Affordable Care Act and the expansion of Medicaid in Ohio for a decline in the rate of uninsured children in the state since 2013.

A report by the Georgetown University Center for Children and Families said the U.S. saw the largest decline in the child uninsured rate on record from 2013 to 2015, after the act known as Obamacare took effect.

In Ohio, the rate change beat the national average by falling from 5.3% to 4.4%, the report said.

"Ohio leaders made the right decisions to invest in the health and well-being of Ohio's children and their parents," Brandi Slaughter, CEO of Voices for Ohio Children, said in a statement. "Today's children will become tomorrow's leaders and we need to make sure they get what they need to grow up healthy and reach their full potential."

The report credited the trend to the a long period of expanded care for children, beginning with programs two decades ago to have Medicaid cover more children and create the Children's Health Insurance program.

In Ohio, the number of uninsured children fell 19% from 2013 to 2015, from about 141,000 to about 115,000, the report said.

"We would like to see the day when 100% of Ohio's children have health coverage," said Slaughter. "Ohio needs to maintain Medicaid expansion to boost coverage rates overall, preserve Medicaid coverage for children and pregnant women up to 200% FPL, and - of course - reauthorize CHIP beyond 2017 and maintain a comprehensive benefits package for Ohio's CHIP kids."

Flu Season Begins: The Department of Health is urging Ohioans six months old and older to get flu vaccines as flu season begins in Ohio.

Flu season starts in October and runs through spring, with spikes in December and February, the department said. There have been a small number of cases in the state so far.

During last year's flu season, 3,558 Ohioans were hospitalized due to the virus.

"Influenza vaccination is the safest and most effective way to fight the flu, and October is the perfect time to get vaccinated," ODH Medical Director Dr. Mary DiOrio said in a statement. "Flu vaccination is especially important for older people, young children, pregnant women and people with certain health conditions who are more vulnerable to serious flu complications."

It takes about two weeks for a vaccination to take full effect. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control has also urged that the nasal spray flu vaccine not be used due to its low effectiveness in the past.

More information on flu activity in Ohio is available from ODH online.

Martin Talks Shared Living: Department of Developmental Disabilities Director John Martin spoke with host Clark Donley on Columbus radio station WSNY 94.7, Sunny 95, about Ohio Shared Living.

In the program, Director Martin said, an individual lives with a family, and the family earns income through a Medicaid waiver.

"One of the things that we are really positive about is that these become very stable settings, and so while in a group home setting you may have a fair amount of staff turnover, in shared living oftentimes these relationships last for five, 10, 15 years," Director Martin said.

The full interview is available from Sunny 95.

Third Frontier Commission Awards \$67.4 Million; ODNR; Labor Force; White House; AG; OEC; SOS

The Third Frontier Commission approved \$67.4 million in funding this week to help entrepreneurs develop new products and grow tech startup companies, the Development Services Agency announced.

"We are supporting the problem-solvers and businesses that are building a new Ohio," DSA Director David Goodman said in a statement. "The investment in innovators will continue to create jobs."

The awards were made in a number of programs, and a few other organizations were awarded funding to help provide resources to entrepreneurs, including mentorship, access to investors and capital, business support, talent recruiting, incubators and accelerators.

CincyTech in Cincinnati was awarded up to nearly \$13.9 million, Jumpstart Inc. in Cleveland up to \$28.2 million, Ohio University in Athens \$5.4 million, and Rev1 Ventures in Columbus \$13.8 million.

The commission made awards in three categories. Three companies were awarded for commercial acceleration for investing in technologies that might have struggled to find support due to risk. Four universities were awarded funding for technology validation and start-ups to demonstrate the commercial viability of products.

Other universities and research institutions received funding for additional projects designed to move products into the marketplace.

Four companies were awarded support for licensing institution-owned technologies to speed up commercialization.

Natural Resources: The department approved nearly \$15 million in funding through a number of grants aimed at improving outdoor recreation around the state.

The \$14.9 million comes through three programs - the Clean Ohio Trails Fund, NatureWorks and the Recreational Trails Program.

"By pursuing additional opportunities for Ohioans to enjoy the outdoors, these communities are investing in their overall health and in preserving the outdoor experience for our kids and grandkids," Director James Zehringer said in a statement. "ODNR is proud to partner with the park districts, counties, cities and towns in Ohio that seek to create more outdoor recreational activities for the people in their communities."

Through the Clean Trails Fund, the department awarded 22 grants for community projects totaling \$10.5 million in 12 counties to develop 24 miles of new trail, trailhead facilities, a parking lot and four bridges.

Through NatureWorks, the department approved 89 grants totaling nearly \$3 million including the development or improvement of playgrounds, park restrooms, shelters, ball fields, splash pads and more.

The department awarded 13 projects through the Recreational Trails Program worth about \$1.5 million in federal funds to improve both non-motorized and motorized trails.

The department's Division of Oil and Gas Resources also reported that a total of 2,277 permits have been issued for the Utica shale as of Oct. 22, up nine from a week before.

A total of 1,834 wells have been drilled, with 1,414 wells in production.

In a separate release, the department said it hosted 15 disabled veterans for a guided archery hunt at Zaleski State Forest the weekend of Oct. 7.

"These unique archery hunts give us the chance to honor and show our appreciation for veterans who have sacrificed to defend and protect us," said Robert Boyles, Ohio's state forester. "We are pleased to partner with the Buckeye Hero Hunt Committee for our Ohio veterans who have given so much to help preserve our freedoms."

All 15 hunters harvested a deer, with the veterans harvesting 16 does and five bucks in total.

Veterans who are 100% disabled are eligible for the Buckeye Hero Hunt program, and also for free hunting and fishing licenses through the Division of Wildlife.

Labor Force: Mercer County had the lowest unemployment rate at 3.2%. in September, according to the Department of Job and Family Services. Monroe County had the highest at 9.2%.

Unemployment rates went up in 80 counties, down in six counties and were unchanged in two counties, the department said.

Ten counties - Mercer, Putnam, Hancock, Holmes, Wyandot, Delaware, Auglaize, Madison, Union and Van Wert - had jobless rates below 4% in September, the department said. Eight counties had rates above 7% -- Monroe, Meigs, Jefferson, Noble, Scioto, Jackson, Pike and Morgan.

White House: Jason Furman, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors, announced Friday that the economy grew at a rate of 2.9% in the third quarter of the year, a faster pace than the first half of the year.

Exports grew at a rate of 10% in the third quarter, with consumer spending also growing at a solid pace, he said.

Attorney General: Mike DeWine announced that the state will receive more than \$1.47 million out of a \$41.2 million settlement with Hyundai and Kia over claims the companies misrepresented mileage and fuel economy ratings for model year 2011, 2012 and 2013 vehicles.

The settlement includes 32 other states and the District of Columbia, and comes at the end of an investigation into the companies' fuel efficiency estimates when gas prices were high.

"Consumers make purchasing decisions based, in part, on the information they receive from vehicle manufacturers," Attorney General DeWine said in a statement. "It's important for that information to be accurate and reliable."

The states said the companies used inflated and inaccurate data in mileage ratings on window stickers of hundreds of thousands of cars, and featured the numbers prominently in ad campaigns.

Ethics Commission: The commission will hold a public hearing on two amended rules Nov. 28, 2016, at 10 a.m. at the William Green Building, 30 W. Spring St. in Columbus. The hearing will be held in Level 2, Room 2.

The hearing covers two rule changes in which a sentence was removed to make the rules on financial disclosure deadlines consistent with administrative rules, the commission said.

Secretary of State: Jon Husted announced that his office will hold regional office hours in November in 16 counties: Adams, Clark, Clermont, Columbiana, Coshocton, Fairfield, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Logan, Pike, Ross, Seneca, Stark, Tuscarawas and Wood counties.

Staff from the secretary's office will be on hand to answer questions about election information, business services and other initiatives.

Goodyear Posts Third-Quarter Sales Declines; TimkenSteel Losses Continue; M/I Homes; Owens Corning; A. Schulman; PolyOne

Goodyear on Friday posted sales of \$3.8 billion in its third quarter, a decline it attributed to the deconsolidation of its Venezuelan subsidiary.

Net income as a percent of sales was 8.2%, or \$317 million, the company reported. Revenue for the year to date was \$703 million.

"We delivered solid results in the quarter, with a total segment operating margin of 14.5 percent, which takes our core segment operating income to record levels on a year-to-date basis," CEO, Chairman and President Richard J. Kramer said in a statement.

"Our revised 2016 outlook reflects recent volatility impacting our U.S. commercial truck tire business. This near-term headwind will not have an impact on our value proposition or our ability to execute on our long-term plan," he added.

Mr. Kramer said the company will look to "take advantage of the trends shaping our industry" by focusing on high-value-added tires. In doing that, the company said it will close its Philippsburg, Germany tire manufacturing facility and plans to realign its European capacity.

TimkenSteel: The company posted third-quarter net sales of \$213.8 million and a net loss of \$16.6 million, or \$0.38 per share.

The results compare to net sales of \$232.7 million and a net loss of \$30.8 million, or \$0.69 per share, in the same quarter last year and net sales of \$223.1 million and a net loss of \$10.5 million, or \$0.24 per share, for the second quarter of 2016.

Earnings before interest and tax were a loss of \$22.7 million, but were a significant improvement over the previous year's third quarter when losses were \$48.9 million, the company reported.

"We've used this tough environment as an opportunity to further improve our cost structure and accelerate innovation," Chairman, CEO and president Tim Timken said.

"Our sales, supply chain and manufacturing teams are working together to leverage our material knowledge and modern assets to deliver customer value in new ways. We've taken actions that have improved our short-term performance and will make us an even stronger company when markets recover."

M/I Homes: New building contracts increased 10% in the third quarter compared to last year, the company reported.

The Columbus home builder took on 1,088 new contracts in the quarter. In the first nine months, it entered more than 3,700 contracts, which represents an 18% increase over the same period in 2015.

Meanwhile, revenue increased 22% to a record \$442 million and net income in the quarter was \$10.9 million, or \$0.35 per diluted share, the company reported.

Owens Corning: Net earnings remained flat year-over-year in the third quarter, coming in at \$112 million, the company reported.

Adjusted earnings for the quarter were \$125 million, or \$1.09 per diluted share, compared with \$113 million, or \$0.96 per diluted share, in 2015.

In response to the Toledo company's strong third quarter performance, its Chairman and CEO Mike Thaman announced this week that the board of directors has approved an additional share repurchase authorization for up to 10 million shares.

A. Schulman: Net sales fell 8.3% in the fourth quarter to \$604.6 million as a result of unfavorable foreign currency translation, the Akron company reported.

On a GAAP basis, the company also saw a fourth quarter net loss of \$385.1 million, or \$13.12 per share. It attributed the drop to a non-cash asset impairment charge related to the acquisition of Citadel in Fiscal Year

2015.

PolyOne: The company reported a slight third quarter increase in revenue to \$844 million compared to the previous year.

GAAP earnings per share stayed steady at \$0.50 in the third quarters of 2016 and 2015. However, adjusted earnings per share increased 4% to \$0.56, from \$0.54 last year.

Gorman-Rupp Company: The Mansfield-based pump manufacturer reported that net sales during the third quarter were \$91.3 million compared to \$104.2 million during the third quarter of 2015, a decrease of 12.4% or \$12.9 million.

"Excluding sales from the New Orleans Permanent Canal Closures & Pumps ("PCCP") project of \$1.6 million in the third quarter of 2016 and \$9.8 million for the same period in 2015, net sales during the quarter decreased 5.0%," the company reported. "Domestic sales decreased 19.3% or \$13.9 million while international sales increased 3.3% or \$1.0 million compared to the same period in 2015."

Governor's Appointments

Help Me Grow Advisory Council: Jennifer R. Ottley of Pickerington for a term beginning October 28, 2016 and ending June 30, 2018.

Cuyahoga Community College Board of Trustees: Michael Canty of Bentleyville for a term beginning October 28, 2016 and ending October 12, 2017.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Monday, October 31

Tax Credit Authority, 77 South High Street, 31st Floor, South A, Columbus, 10 a.m.


Friday, November 4

Accountancy Board, Rms. West B&C, 31st Fl., 77 S. High St., Columbus, 9:30 a.m. (The meeting of the Finance & Audit Committee will be followed by meetings of the Nominating Committee, full board and Office Oversight Committee)

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House Floor Report

1 message

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HOUSE ACTIVITY REPORT

INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

HR 503**CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT (Smith, K., Antonio, N.)**

To call on legislators at the state and federal level and other communities and jurisdictions to support an amendment to the United States Constitution that would abolish corporate personhood and the doctrine of money as speech.

HR 510**OPIOID USE (Johnson, G., Driehaus, D.)**

To urge the governor to declare that the increasing prevalence of opioid abuse is a public health emergency and to direct available state resources to support prevention and treatment efforts.

HCR 36**SHIP NAMING (Sheehy, M., Cupp, R.)**

To urge the Secretary of the Navy to name a guide missile destroyer vessel the O.H. Perry, in honor of Commodore Perry who fought the Battle of Lake Erie during the War of 1812.

HCR 37**CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT (Conditt, M., Patmon, B.)**

To urge Congress to propose the Regulation Freedom Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

RE-REFERRED**HB 261**

TRAUMA SYSTEM (Grossman, C., Huffman, S.)
To establish the State Trauma Board in the Ohio Department of Health, to require that facilities that provide trauma care be designated by the Board as level I, II, or III trauma centers, and to provide that the amendment by this act to section 101.82 of the Revised Code terminates on December 31, 2016.

REFERRED**Agriculture & Rural Development****HB 566**

NURSERY STOCK (Ramos, D.)
To prohibit the labeling and advertising of nursery stock as pollinator beneficial under specified conditions

HB 607

WATER QUALITY PROGRAM (Patterson, J., Sheehy, M.)
To require the Director of Agriculture to adopt rules establishing the Ohio Water Quality Improvement Program, to exempt land enrolled in the Program from taxation, and to reimburse local taxing units for revenue lost due to that exemption.

Commerce & Labor**HB 545**

BENEFIT CORPORATIONS (Driehaus, D., Dever, J.)
To allow a corporation to become a benefit corporation.

HB 568

EMPLOYEE DEFINITION (Phillips, D., Rogers, J.)
To create a generally uniform definition of employee for specified labor laws, to create a uniform standard to determine whether an

individual performing services for an employer is an employee of that employer, and to regulate the payment of wages via payroll card.

HB 574

USED TIRES (Sprague, R., DeVitis, T.)
To prohibit the installation of unsafe used tires on certain motor vehicles.

HB 601

MICROBUSINESS (Pelanda, D.)
To create a statutory definition of "microbusiness."

Community & Family Advancement

SB 308

CHILD SUPPORT (Coley, B.)
To amend the child support laws.

Education

SB 247

SUMMER MEAL PROGRAM (Brown, E., Lehner, P.)
To require school districts to allow alternative summer meal sponsors to use school facilities to provide food service for summer intervention services under certain conditions.

HB 544

HIGH SCHOOL EXAMS (Koehler, K., Landis, A.)
To permit high school students to take a civics assessment instead of the American government end-of-course examination.

HB 550

OSFC PROGRAMS (Arndt, S.)
To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to establish a program assisting school districts in purchasing technology and making physical alterations to improve technology infrastructure and school safety and security.

HB 560

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (Hambley, S.)
Regarding verification of community school enrollments.

HB 570

OPEN ENROLLMENT (Hill, B.)
Regarding funding for students enrolled in community schools, STEM schools, and other districts through interdistrict open enrollment.

HB 571

CAREER INFORMATION (Duffey, M., Boggs, K.)
Regarding the presentation of career information to students.

Energy & Natural Resources

HB 582

ORPHANED WELLS (Thompson, A., O'Brien, S.)
To allow a landowner to report an idle and orphaned well or abandoned well, to require the Chief of the Division of Oil and Gas Resources Management to inspect and classify such a well, and to require the Chief to begin plugging a well classified as distressed-high priority within a specified time period.

Finance

SB 235

PROPERTY TAXES (Beagle, B., Coley, B.)
To exempt from property tax the increased value of property on which industrial or commercial development is planned until the completion of new commercial or industrial facilities at the property.

SB 319

DRUG REGULATIONS (Eklund, J.)
To revise certain laws regarding the regulation of drugs, the practice of pharmacy, and the provision of addiction services.

SB 331

PET STORES (Peterson, B.)
To regulate the sale of dogs from pet stores and dog retailers and to require the Director of Agriculture to license pet stores.

SB 332

INFANT MORTALITY (Jones, S., Tavares, C.)
To provide for the implementation of recommendations made by the Commission on Infant Mortality and to authorize pharmacists to administer by injection certain prescribed drugs.

HB 549

STEM DEGREE LOANS (Patterson, J.)
To create the STEM Degree Loan Repayment Program and to make an appropriation.

HB 563

LAYOFF PAYMENTS (Ramos, D.)
To provide for payments to municipalities or school districts for their lost income tax revenue

after a business lays off 50 or more employees within their jurisdiction.

HB 579

TRANSPORTATION REPAIRS (Ashford, M., Sweeney, M.)

To make supplemental appropriations to the Department of Transportation in order to provide political subdivisions with funding for critical road maintenance repairs.

HB 583

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING (Becker, J.)

To remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation.

HB 587

DASHBOARD CAMERAS (Boyce, K.)

To require law enforcement officers to use dashboard cameras and body cameras during any time that they are interacting with any member of the public while in the performance of their duties, to provide for state financial assistance to local law enforcement agencies for the purchase of such cameras and related equipment, and to make an appropriation.

Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development

HB 593

CROWDFUNDING (Arndt, S.)

To permit intrastate equity crowdfunding under certain circumstances.

HB 598

LOAN ACT (Terhar, L.)

To create the Ohio Consumer Installment Loan Act.

Government Accountability & Oversight

HJR 8

SLAVERY (Reece, A., Sykes, E.)

Proposing to amend Section 6 of Article I of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit

slavery or involuntary servitude in Ohio for the punishment of crime.

SB 206

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS (LaRose, F.)
To require certain campaign committees and other entities to file campaign finance statements electronically and to require the Secretary of State to make the information in those statements available online.

SB 273

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE (Bacon, K.)
To enact the Corporate Governance Annual Disclosure Act.

SB 329

SUNSET REVIEW (Jordan, K., Faber, K.)
To require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the Governor's cabinet.

HB 542

POLLING PLACE HOURS (McColley, R.)
To specify the conditions under which a court may order that a polling place be kept open for extended hours on the day of an election and to require a person who votes pursuant to such an order to cast a provisional ballot.

HB 543

ELECTION BOARDS (Ramos, D.)
To specify the conditions under which a board of county commissioners may establish one or more branch offices of the board of elections for in-person absent voting.

HB 555

ALCOHOLIC ICE CREAM (Patterson, J., Boggs, K.)
To allow A-4 liquor permit holders to manufacture and sell ice cream containing between one-half of one per cent and six per cent of alcohol by volume.

HB 567

BROWNFIELDS REMEDIATION (Driehaus, D.)
To require that, if JobsOhio provides financial assistance for the cleanup and remediation of brownfields, at least 85% of the assistance must be in the form of grants.

HB 591

SPECIAL ELECTIONS (Pelanda, D.)
To eliminate the requirement of holding a special election to fill a vacancy in a party nomination

for the office of representative to Congress under certain circumstances.

HB 594

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (Roegner, K.)
Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a finding of recovery issued pursuant to an audit of a community school.

HB 597

MARIJUANA RECIPROCITY (Koehler, K.)
Regarding the Medical Marijuana Control Program and reciprocity agreements.

HB 609

BALLOT PICTURES (Antani, N., Duffey, M.)
To allow electors to photograph and make public the elector's own marked ballot.

Health & Aging

SB 165

LIFE-SUSTAINING TREATMENT (Lehner, P.)
To establish procedures for the use of medical orders for life-sustaining treatment and to make changes to the laws governing DNR Identification and orders.

SB 245

MALNUTRITION (Manning, G.)
To create the Malnutrition Prevention Commission to study malnutrition among older adults.

SB 254

FETAL REMAINS (Uecker, J.)
Regarding final disposition of fetal remains from surgical abortions.

SB 287

DIABETES (Hite, C.)
To require state agencies to assess the incidence of diabetes in Ohio, to establish goals and plans to reduce that incidence, and to submit biennial reports with findings and recommendations for fiscal and legislative policies on diabetes prevention, treatment, and management.

SB 291

AWARENESS MONTH (Yuko, K.)
To designate September as "Pain Awareness Month."

SB 311

FLU VACCINE (Patton, T.)
To require the Ohio Department of Health to

prepare an influenza vaccine information sheet pertaining to older adults.

SB 312

AWARENESS DAY (Jones, S.)
To designate May 1 as "Fanconi Anemia Awareness Day."

HB 564

STUDENT IMMUNIZATIONS (Ramos, D.)
To make changes to the law governing immunizations for pupils.

HB 580

MONTH DESIGNATION (Johnson, T., Huffman, S.)
To designate the month of November as "One Health Awareness Month."

HB 603

PALLIATIVE CARE (LaTourette, S.)
To create the Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary Council, to establish the Palliative Care Consumer and Professional Information and Education Program, and to require health care facilities to identify patients and residents who could benefit from palliative care.

HB 611

HOSPITAL AFTER-CARE (LaTourette, S.)
To provide for the designation of a lay person to provide after-care to a hospital inpatient and participate in discharge planning.

Judiciary

SB 257

REAL PROPERTY (Seitz, B., Skindell, M.)
To create a presumption of validity of recorded real property instruments, reduce the time period for curing certain defects related to those instruments, and provide constructive notice for those instruments.

SB 284

EXPUNGEMENT (Obhof, L.)
To provide that a person who is found not guilty of an offense by a jury or a court or who is the defendant named in a dismissed complaint, indictment, or information may apply to the court for an order to expunge the person's official records in the case if the complaint, indictment, or information or finding of not guilty was the result of the applicant having

been a victim of human trafficking and to authorize intervention in lieu of conviction for persons charged with committing an offense while a victim of compelling prostitution.

SB 299

PERRY COUNTY COURTS (Hottinger, J.)
To create the Perry County Municipal Court in New Lexington on January 1, 2017, to establish one full-time judgeship in that court, to provide for the nomination of the judge by petition only, to abolish the Perry County County Court on that date, to designate the Perry County Clerk of Courts as the clerk of the Perry County Municipal Court, and to provide for the election for the Perry County Municipal Court of one full-time judge in 2017.

HB 559

MEDICAL CLAIMS (Cupp, R.)
To grant qualified civil immunity to certain medical providers who provide emergency medical services as a result of a disaster or mass hazard; to provide that certain communications made regarding an unanticipated outcome of medical care, the development or implementation of standards under federal laws, and an insurer's reimbursement policies on health care are inadmissible as evidence in a medical claim; to provide that medical bills itemizing charges are inadmissible as evidence and a payment for medical services accepted by a defendant from an insurer is admissible as evidence of the reasonableness of the charges; to specify the manner of sending a notice of intent to file a medical claim and provide a procedure for the discovery of other potential claims within a specified period after the filing of a medical claim; to provide that any loss of a chance of recovery or survival by itself is not an injury, death, or loss for which damages may be recovered; to provide civil immunity to certain medical providers regarding the discharge of a patient with a mental condition that threatens the safety of the patient or others; to require that governmental agencies that receive peer review committee records maintain their confidentiality; and to clarify the definition of "medical claim."

BIAS CRIMES (Antonio, N.)

HB 569

To rename the offense of ethnic intimidation to bias-motivated crime; to expand the scope of the offense to include specified crimes committed based on a person's actual or perceived ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability; to require peace officer training on bias-motivated crime, and to require law enforcement agencies to submit data on bias-motivated crime to the Ohio Department of Public Safety and the Federal Bureau of Investigation and provide for the annual public release of the data.

HB 581

LLC REGULATIONS (Dever, J., Reineke, B.)
To permit and regulate managers, members, and interests of series limited liability companies.

HB 585

BODY CAMERA RECORDS (Antani, N.)
To provide that a record created by a body camera that is worn or carried by a law enforcement officer who is engaged in the performance of the officer's official duties generally is a public record, to provide in the specified circumstances in which such a record is not a public record that there are conditions under which the record becomes a public record, to provide that the portions of a record that contain personal information or information that is not relevant to the offense or delinquent act are exempt from inspection and copying under the Public Records Law and are subject to redaction, and to require a local records commission to maintain records from a body camera for a minimum of one year unless the law enforcement agency is subject to a records retention schedule that establishes a longer period of time.

HB 602

DIGITAL ASSETS (Cupp, R., Rezabek, J.)
To adopt the Revised Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act.

Local Government

HB 561

PARK COMMISSIONERS (Boccheri, J., Clyde, K.)
To require boards of county commissioners to appoint additional park board commissioners

and allow for public comment during appointment process.

HB 562

MAIL DELIVERY (Hambley, S., Ryan, S.)

To authorize local governments and officers to deliver certain notices by ordinary mail and electronically instead of by certified mail.

HB 576

PUBLIC RECORDS (Ryan, S.)

To exempt from the Public Records Act financial account numbers and identifying information in public records and to provide that taxpayer electronic mail address lists used by county treasurers to deliver tax bills are not public records.

Public Utilities

HB 589

UTILITY RESELLING (Duffey, M.)

To permit the Public Utilities Commission to adopt rules governing residential utility reselling.

State Government

SB 169

AWARENESS DAY (LaRose, F.)

To designate the fourth Tuesday in September as "Voter Registration Awareness Day" and to encourage governmental entities to observe that day.

SB 227

ATTORNEY GENERAL (Bacon, K.)

To make various changes to the laws governing the duties and functions of the Attorney General.

HB 147

CONCEALED FIREARMS (Hood, R.)

To allow a person who has a concealed handgun license to carry concealed all firearms other than dangerous ordnance or firearms that state or federal law prohibits the person from possessing and to provide that a person 21 years of age or older and not legally prohibited from possessing or receiving a firearm by federal law does not need a concealed handgun license in order to carry or have concealed on the person's person or ready at hand a firearm and is subject to the same laws regarding

carrying a concealed firearm as a person who has a concealed handgun license.

HB 280

BALANCED BUDGET (Kraus, S., Koehler, K.)
To adopt the Compact for a Balanced Budget and to declare an emergency.

HB 465

PEACE OFFICER DISABILITY (Ruhl, M., Ryan, S.)
To retroactively extend eligibility for benefits from the Volunteer Peace Officers' Dependents Fund to situations in which, on or after January 1, 2016, a volunteer peace officer is totally and permanently disabled or killed in the line of duty.

HB 558

STEEL USE (Boccheri, J., Ramos, D.)
To require the use of domestic steel in construction, repair, or improvement projects involving certain buildings used by public schools, state institutions of higher education, and specified private colleges.

HB 575

BENEFIT ELIGIBILITY (Boyce, K.)
Regarding qualified aliens' eligibility for Medicaid, Ohio Works First, and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program during their first five years in the United States.

HB 577

LAME DUCK SESSIONS (Boose, T.)
To prohibit the General Assembly from holding sessions after the general election in an even-numbered year.

HB 586

WAGE DISCRIMINATION (Smith, K., Boyd, J.)
To require the Ohio Civil Rights Commission to establish a system for individuals to make anonymous complaints regarding employers discriminating in the payment of wages.

HB 588

CALL CENTERS (Antonio, N., Boccheri, J.)
To enact the Consumer Protection Call Center Act of 2016 to require the Department of Job and Family Services to compile a list of all employers that relocate a call center to a foreign country and to disqualify employers on that list from state grants, loans, and other benefits.

HB 590

FIREARMS (Becker, J.)
To provide that a concealed handgun licensee

who carries a handgun concealed on or in property on which carrying a concealed handgun is prohibited is subject to removal but is not guilty of a violation of the prohibition unless the licensee fails to leave the premises upon request, that a licensee who fails to leave upon request or returns with a firearm within thirty days is guilty of disorderly conduct, and that a private property owner who chooses to prohibit firearms on the property is not immune from liability if a related injury occurs.

HB 595**DAY DESIGNATION (Patmon, B.)**

To designate June 1, 2017, as "Superman Day."

HB 596**FOREIGN DEBT (Sprague, R., Slesnick, S.)**

To raise the foreign debt cap from one per cent to two per cent regarding state interim funds and county inactive and public library fund investments.

HB 604**MONTH DESIGNATION (Patmon, B.)**

To designate November as "Dick Goddard Month."

SCR 15**FEDERALISM (Obhof, L., Faber, K.)**

To reassert the principles of federalism found throughout the Constitution of the United States of America and embodied in the Tenth Amendment, to notify Congress to limit and end certain mandates, and to insist that federal legislation contravening the Tenth Amendment be prohibited or repealed.

Transportation & Infrastructure

SB 231**LICENSE PLATE (Lehner, P.)**

To create the 'Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies' license plate.

HB 552**LICENSE PLATE (Burkley, T.)**

To establish the Monarch Butterfly license plate.

HB 553**LICENSE PLATE (Bocchieri, J.)**

To create the "Ohio Pupil Transportation...Safety First!!!" license plate.

ROAD NAMING (Cera, J.)

HB 584

To designate portions of Interstate Route 70 in Belmont County as the "Sergeant Sylvester Antolak Medal of Honor Recipient Memorial Highway" and the "Sergeant Emile DeLeau, Jr. Medal of Honor Recipient Memorial Highway."

HB 605**ROAD NAMING (Ramos, D.)**

To designate a portion of Interstate Route 90 in Cuyahoga County as the "Patrol Officer Kenny Velez Memorial Highway."

HB 606**ROAD NAMING (Patterson, J.)**

To designate a portion of State Route 534 in Ashtabula County as the "Sgt. William 'Bill' Endress and Geneva Vietnam War Veterans Memorial Highway."

HB 608**AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES (Grossman, C., Reineke, B.)**

To authorize a manufacturer of autonomous vehicles or autonomous technology to operate autonomous vehicles on public roads and highways in accordance with specified requirements, and to require the Director of Transportation to produce a report discussing whether additional legislative or regulatory actions are necessary for purposes of ensuring the safe testing of autonomous vehicles.

HB 610**BRIDGE NAMING (Ruhl, M.)**

To designate the bridge spanning Schenck Creek on State Route 36 in Knox County as the "Corporal Nathan R. Anderson Memorial Bridge."

Ways & Means**HB 546****SCHOOL PATROL VOLUNTEERS (DeVitis, T.)**

To authorize a board of education or governing authority of a school to enter into an agreement with a volunteer who is a current or retired law enforcement officer to patrol school premises to prevent or respond to a mass casualty event, to generally provide to a board of education or governing authority of a school and to such a volunteer immunity from civil liability for injury, death, or loss arising from the volunteer's

services, and to provide a tax credit for volunteer service.

HB 565**STUDENT LOANS (Ramos, D.)**

To allow a credit against the income tax or commercial activity tax for graduates or employers who make payments on student loans obtained by the graduate to earn a degree from an Ohio college or university.

HB 572**CANCER REPORTING (Leland, D., Sprague, R.)**

To allow taxpayers to contribute all or a portion of their income tax refunds to support improved cancer reporting through the Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System Fund.

HB 592**INVESTMENT COMPANIES (Merrin, D.)**

To subject small business investment companies to the commercial activity tax rather than the financial institutions tax.

HB 599**FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TAX (Amstutz, R.)**

To repeal the financial institutions tax rate adjustment mechanism scheduled for tax year 2017 and to declare an emergency.

HB 600**FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TAX (Amstutz, R.)**

To make a technical correction to the financial institutions tax rate adjustment mechanism for tax year 2017 and to declare an emergency.

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Health & Aging

HB 520**RETIREMENT SYSTEMS (Schuring, K., Ramos, D.)**

To revise the law governing the state's public retirement systems.

HB 548**NURSE ANESTHETISTS (Schuring, K.)**

Regarding the authority of certified registered nurse anesthetists to select, order, and administer drugs and to direct certain other persons to administer drugs or perform clinical support functions.

7/23/2018

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House and Senate Floor Reports

1 message

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HOUSE ACTIVITY REPORT

INTRODUCED

HB 615**MILITARY LICENSE PLATES (Johnson, G.)**

To allow a military veteran license plate to include the names of multiple military operations on one license plate.

HB 616**BANKING LAW (Amstutz, R.)**

For the purpose of enacting a new banking law for the State of Ohio.

HB 617**BOARD CONSOLIDATIONS (LaTourette, S.)**

To require the Director of Administrative Services to review referred agency actions and determine whether they are consistent with state and federal antitrust law; to create the State Vision and Hearing Professionals Board, the State Behavioral Health Professionals Board, and the State Physical Health Services Board; to abolish the State Board of Optometry, the Ohio Optical Dispensers Board, the Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters Licensing Board, and the Board of SpeechLanguage Pathology and Audiology and transfer those boards' duties to

the State Vision and Hearing Professionals Board; to abolish the Chemical Dependency Professionals Board, the Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board, and the State Board of Psychology and transfer those boards' duties to the State Behavioral Health Professionals Board; to abolish the Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board and the State Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics and transfer those boards' duties to the State Physical Health Services Board; to abolish the Ohio Board of Dietetics and transfer its duties to the State Medical Board; to abolish the Ohio Respiratory Care Board and transfer its duties to the State Board of Pharmacy and the State Medical Board; to make other changes regarding licensing and regulating certain health professionals; and to make an appropriation.

HB 618

RECORD EXPUNGEMENT (Schuring, K., Reece, A.)

To provide for the expungement of official records related to the apprehension, arrest, criminal charging, or trial of a person based on mistaken identity.

CALENDAR FOR COMING SESSION

SB 252

CARDIAC ARREST (Hite, C., Patton, T.)

With regard to sudden cardiac arrest in youth athletic activities.

HB 533

AWARENESS MONTH (Sprague, R.)

To designate the month of May as "Neurofibromatosis Awareness Month."

HB 535

MILITARY BENEFITS (Perales, R.)

To extend employment and reemployment protection to a person who is a member of another state's national guard or organized militia and who is employed in Ohio.

RE-REFERRED

HB 343

TAX EXEMPTION (Young, R., Romanchuk, M.)

To exempt employment services and

employment placement services from sales and use tax.

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Judiciary

SB 76

PROTECTION ORDERS (Bacon, K., Manning, G.)
To provide that service of a protection order or consent agreement upon a person is not necessary for the person to be convicted of the offense of violating a protection order if the person had actual notice of the order or agreement and the person recklessly violated its terms.

SB 299

PERRY COUNTY COURTS (Hottinger, J.)
To create the Perry County Municipal Court in New Lexington on January 1, 2017, to establish one full-time judgeship in that court, to provide for the nomination of the judge by petition only, to abolish the Perry County County Court on that date, to designate the Perry County Clerk of Courts as the clerk of the Perry County Municipal Court, and to provide for the election for the Perry County Municipal Court of one full-time judge in 2017.

HB 581

LLC REGULATIONS (Dever, J., Reineke, B.)
To permit and regulate managers, members, and interests of series limited liability companies.

Commerce & Labor

HB 486

MINIMUM WAGE (Smith, K., Craig, H.)
To increase the state minimum wage to ten dollars and ten cents per hour beginning January 1, 2017.
CONTINUED

HB 574

USED TIRES (Sprague, R., DeVitis, T.)
To prohibit the installation of unsafe used tires on certain motor vehicles.
CONTINUED

HB 601

MICROBUSINESS (Pelanda, D.)
To create a statutory definition of

"microbusiness."

CONTINUED

HCR 14

**STEELWORKER BENEFITS (Slesnick, S.,
Ramos, D.)**

To declare the State of Ohio's support of its steelworkers in urging the President and the Congress of the United States to ensure that the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation is fully funded and properly administered to pay pension benefits to retired steelworkers and their spouses.

CONTINUED

Finance

SB 235

PROPERTY TAXES (Beagle, B., Coley, B.)

To exempt from property tax the increased value of property on which industrial or commercial development is planned until the completion of new commercial or industrial facilities at the property.

HB 257

STATE OPERATIONS (Becker, J.)

To modify the law governing re-employed retirants; to expand the immunity from liability for certain health care professionals, workers, and organizations when providing care to indigent and uninsured individuals; to require the Department of Health to ensure that certain funds are not used to perform elective abortions, or promote or affiliate with any entity that performs elective abortions; to modify the method of calculating the severance tax; to make certain changes to the sales tax; to modify the income tax rates and calculation; and to reduce General Revenue Fund appropriations for the fiscal biennium ending June 30, 2017; and to eliminate Medicaid funding for the group described in section 192(a)(10)(i)(VIII) of the "Social Security Act," 42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(10)(A)(i)(VIII).

HB 346

SCHOOL FUNDING (Brenner, A.)

To require that each city, local, and exempted village school district receive a per-pupil amount of state funding that is at least as much as the statewide per pupil amount paid for chartered

nonpublic schools in Auxiliary Services funds and for administrative cost reimbursement, and to make an appropriation.

HB 395

CEMETERY GRANTS (Pelanda, D.)
To establish the cemetery grant program and to make an appropriation.

HB 412

LOCAL GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS (Anielski, M., Schuring, K.)
To require certain payments made to local governments in which racetracks are located to be made proportionally.

HB 508

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDS (Smith, K., Boggs, K.)
To make supplemental appropriations to the Auditor of State for purposes of distributing these funds to political subdivisions in fiscal caution, watch, or emergency.

Education

SB 168

EDUCATION INFORMATION (LaRose, F.)
To require the Education Management Information System to include information regarding persons at whom a student's violent behavior that resulted in discipline was directed and to require the Department of Education to submit a one-time report to the General Assembly regarding that information.
CONTINUED

HB 426

JOB PLACEMENT (Antani, N.)
To require the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools to report and post job placement information.
CONTINUED

HB 560

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (Hambley, S.)
Regarding verification of community school enrollments.
CONTINUED

Finance: Health & Human Services Sub.

SB 319

DRUG REGULATIONS (Eklund, J.)
To revise certain laws regarding the regulation

of drugs, the practice of pharmacy, and the provision of addiction services.

SB 332

INFANT MORTALITY (Jones, S., Tavares, C.)
To provide for the implementation of recommendations made by the Commission on Infant Mortality and to authorize pharmacists to administer by injection certain prescribed drugs.

Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development

HB 593

CROWDFUNDING (Arndt, S.)
To permit intrastate equity crowdfunding under certain circumstances.
CONTINUED

HB 598

LOAN ACT (Terhar, L.)
To create the Ohio Consumer Installment Loan Act.
CONTINUED

Government Accountability & Oversight

HJR 2

CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING (Clyde, K., Curtin, M.)
Proposing to enact Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 of Article XIX of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to revise the redistricting process for congressional districts.
CONTINUED

SB 273

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE (Bacon, K.)
To enact the Corporate Governance Annual Disclosure Act.
CONTINUED

SB 329

SUNSET REVIEW (Jordan, K., Faber, K.)
To require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the Governor's cabinet.
CONTINUED

HB 456

POLITICAL PARTIES (Becker, J.)
To revise the law concerning electors' political party affiliations, candidates for public office, and the removal of appointed political party

central committee members.

CONTINUED

HB 502

CAMPAIGN FINANCE (Becker, J.)

To modify the Campaign Finance Law.

CONTINUED

HB 591

SPECIAL ELECTIONS (Pelanda, D.)

To eliminate the requirement of holding a special election to fill a vacancy in a party nomination for the office of representative to Congress under certain circumstances.

CONTINUED

SENATE ACTIVITY REPORT

INTRODUCED

SB 365

LEADS DISCLOSURE (Eklund, J.)

To allow disclosure of information from the law enforcement automated data system (LEADS) to a defendant in a traffic or criminal case.

SB 366

BOARD CONSOLIDATIONS (Seitz, B.)

To require the Director of Administrative Services to review referred agency actions and determine whether they are consistent with state and federal antitrust law; to create the State Vision and Hearing Professionals Board, the State Behavioral Health Professionals Board, and the State Physical Health Services Board; to abolish the State Board of Optometry, the Ohio Optical Dispensers Board, the Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters Licensing Board, and the Board of SpeechLanguage Pathology and Audiology and transfer those boards' duties to the State Vision and Hearing Professionals Board; to abolish the Chemical Dependency Professionals Board, the Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board, and the State Board of Psychology and transfer those boards' duties to the State Behavioral Health Professionals Board; to abolish the Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical

Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board and the State Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics and transfer those boards' duties to the State Physical Health Services Board; to abolish the Ohio Board of Dietetics and transfer its duties to the State Medical Board; to abolish the Ohio Respiratory Care Board and transfer its duties to the State Board of Pharmacy and the State Medical Board; to make other changes regarding licensing and regulating certain health professionals; and to make an appropriation.

REFERRED

Government Oversight & Reform

SB 364**LAND CONVEYANCES (Peterson, B.)**

To authorize the conveyance of, and the granting of perpetual easements to, state-owned real property.

Health & Human Services

SB 360**MONTH DESIGNATION (Beagle, B., Peterson, B.)**

To designate the period beginning March 13 and ending April 15 as "Ohio Deaf History Month."

SCR 24**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (Yuko, K.)**

To urge Congress to amend the Americans with Disabilities Act and adopt an international symbol of access that includes a dynamic character leaning forward with a sense of movement.

State & Local Government

SB 362**PUBLIC RECORDS (Hughes, J.)**

To exempt certain personal information of former and retired peace officers from public records requests and to allow such officers to use a former business address on their driver's licenses and motor vehicle registrations.

Transportation, Commerce & Labor

LICENSE PLATE (Uecker, J.)

SB 359

To create the Down Syndrome Awareness license plate.

SB 361

LICENSE PLATE (Thomas, C.)
To create the "Triple Negative Breast Cancer Awareness" license plate.

SB 363

LICENCE PLATE (Oelslager, S.)
To create the "Buckeye Corvette" license plate.

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Education

HB 85

ABUSE PREVENTION (Ramos, D., Hagan, C.)
With respect to age-appropriate student instruction in child sexual abuse and sexual violence prevention and in-service staff training in child sexual abuse prevention.

HB 89

MEDICAID SCHOOL PROGRAM (DeVitis, T.)
Regarding the Medicaid School Program.

HB 383

FINANCIAL LITERACY (Hagan, C., McColley, R.)
To require one-half unit of economic and financial literacy in the high school social studies curriculum, to require the Chancellor of Higher Education to prepare an informed student document for each state institution of higher education, to require the State Board of Education to include information on the informed student document in the standards and model curricula it creates for financial literacy and entrepreneurship, and to entitle the act the "Informed Student Document Act."

HB 410

TRUANCY (Rezabek, J., Hayes, B.)
With regard to habitual and chronic truancy and compulsory school attendance.

HB 438

WEEK DESIGNATION (Patterson, J.)
To designate the week prior to the week of Thanksgiving Day as "Ohio Public Education Appreciation Week."

HB 441

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES (McColley, R.)
With regard to student participation in



Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

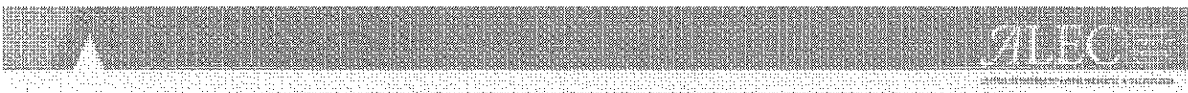
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Model Policies Approved and Posted on ALEC.org



Following our excellent annual meeting in Denver, our Board voted to finalize our new official model policies. Take a look and share with your colleagues... [\(more\)](#)

Member Focus

Citizen, Lawmaker, Hurricane Relief Worker and ALEC Member

Jay Hamilton | American Legislative Exchange Council



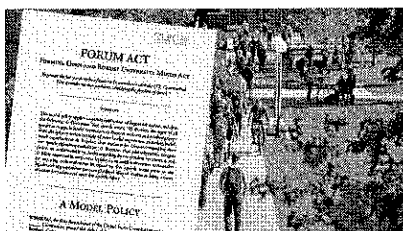
Massive relief efforts from two powerful hurricanes were lead by ALEC legislators. "Passing out food, water and ice and giving that kind of assistance to people was very rewarding," said Major Tony Dale, Texas State Guard and a Representative from... [\(more\)](#)

First Amendment Policy Alert

ALEC Legislators Endorse Campus Free Speech Model Policy

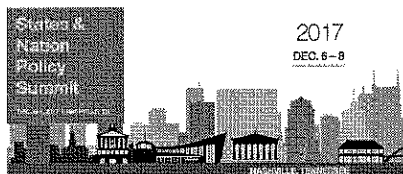
Shelby Emmett | ALEC Model Policy

As the Fall semester gets underway, The Center to Protect Free Speech released its model policy, The FORUM Act. It is the most comprehensive approach to protecting campus free speech in accordance with the First Amendment... [\(more\)](#)



Early Bird Registration

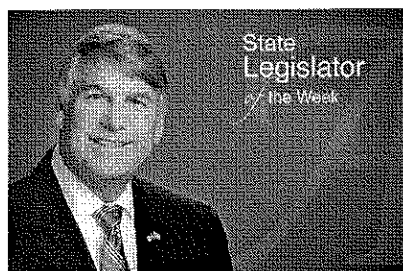
Exciting Line-Up of Speakers -- Register Now



Join policy leaders from across the country at the States & Nation Policy Summit in Nashville on Dec. 6-8. Register now to book your hotel room and save your spot... [\(register here\)](#)

Legislator of the Week Q&A

Senator Ed Jackson: Giving a Voice to Western Tennessee

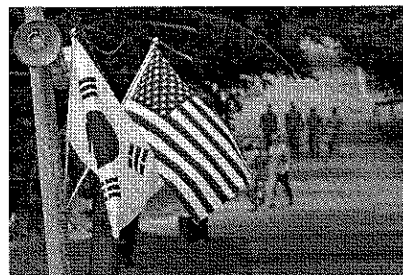


Find out why Senator Ed Jackson (TN) ran for political office four years ago and what he left out of his official bio... [\(more\)](#)

Expert Insight

Ending the U.S. - South Korea FTA is a Losing Proposition

Karla Jones | Director, Federalism and International Relations Task Force



After months of invective about American's trade imbalance with South Korea, the Administration appears to be seriously considering withdrawal from the U.S.- South Korea Free Trade Agreement... [\(more\)](#)

In The News

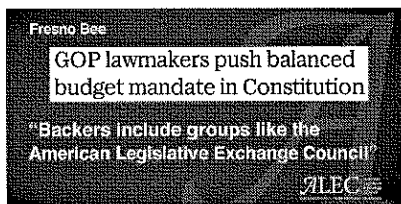
ALEC Legislators Lead AZ Meeting to Plan Balanced Budget Convention

Bob Christie | Fresno Bee

State legislators from 19 states - many of them ALEC members -- convened in Phoenix to set the ground

7/25/2018

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rules for a constitutional amendment calling on the federal government to balance its budget... [\(more\)](#)

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ALEC Academies Coming to a State Near You

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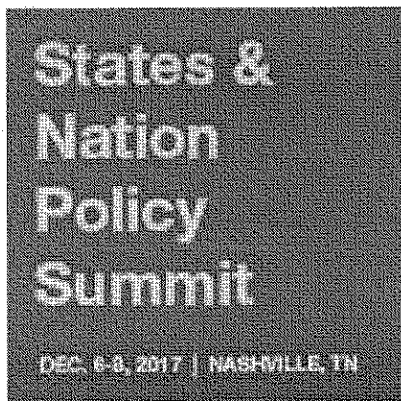
Events and Education - September 19, 2017



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ALEC is two-stepping down to Nashville for the States and Nation Policy Summit. We have lots of exciting speakers including EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, HHS Secretary Tom Price, Dr. Art Laffer and economist Steve Moore.

We are looking forward to seeing you December 6-8, 2017. [Register here](#).

ALEC Academies are Coming



ALEC staff and members will be hard at work these next coming months with nine different academies in cities all over the country.

If you are interested in learning more about the programs, please email your Task Force Director.

New Task Force: Homeland Security

The Homeland Security Task Force was created at our Annual Meeting in Denver. It will focus on security issues and how our principles of free markets and limited government can help solve them.

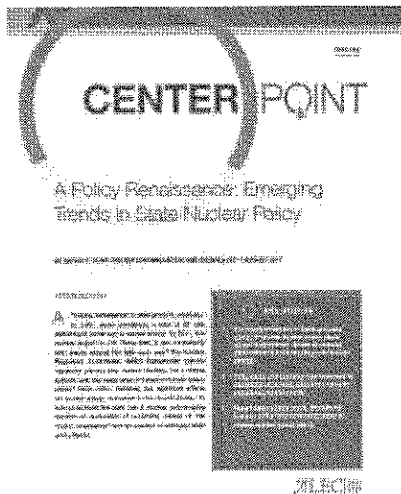


To find out more, email Task Force Director Jonathon Hauenschild: jhauenschild@alec.org.

Featured Publication

CenterPoint: A Policy Renaissance: Emerging Trends in State Nuclear Policy

Sarah Hunt | Center for Innovation and Technology



A "nuclear renaissance" in state policy is underway. In 2007, states considered a total of 27 bills pertaining in some way to nuclear energy.

By 2011, this number leaped to 205. Since then, it has consistently held steady around 200 bills each year. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) holds general regulatory primacy over nuclear reactors, but it shares authority with the states when it comes to nuclear power plants.

State policy, therefore, has significant effect on nuclear energy resources in the United States... [\(Read more\)](#)

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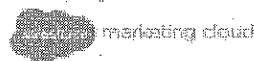
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HOUSE ACTIVITY REPORT

INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

HCR 15**IMMIGRATION (Ramos, D.)**

To urge the President of the United States to restore the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program and to urge the Congress of the United States to pass the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act of 2017.

INTRODUCED

HB 346**ROAD NAMING (West, T.)**

To designate a portion of State Route 172 in Stark County as the "Football Heritage Corridor."

HB 347**ROAD NAMING (Kelly, B., Dever, J.)**

To designate a portion of I-71 in Hamilton County as the "Sonny L. Kim Memorial Highway."

HB 348**DRUG TRAFFICKING (Ginter, T.)**

To provide that the penalty for trafficking in, possession of, or funding of trafficking in fentanyl or carfentanil is the same as the penalty for those crimes involving heroin, to increase to a third degree felony the trafficking in or possession of at least one gram but less than five grams of any of those drugs, to provide that deception to obtain a dangerous drug involving fentanyl or carfentanil is a third degree felony, and to provide a per se prohibited concentration of fentanyl and carfentanil regarding operating a vessel or motor vehicle that is the same as the per se prohibited concentration for heroin.

HB 349**POLICE ANIMALS (LaTourette, S.)**

To increase the penalty for assaulting a police dog or horse and to include search and rescue dogs and horses in the prohibition against assaulting or harassing a police animal.

CALENDAR FOR COMING SESSION

SB 57**AWARENESS DAY (Kunze, S.)**

To designate the seventeenth day of May as "Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma Awareness Day."

Wednesday, Sept. 20

HB 116**SALES TAX (Merrin, D.)**

To exempt prescription eyeglasses, contact lenses, and other optical aids sold by licensed dispensers from sales and use tax.

Wednesday, Sept. 20

HB 159**MONTH DESIGNATION (Riedel, C.)**

To designate May as "Drive Ohio Byways Month."

Wednesday, Sept. 20

HB 196**AWARENESS MONTH (Lipps, S.)**

To designate October as "Ohio Chiropractic Awareness Month."

Wednesday, Sept. 20

HB 215**PAULDING COURTS (Riedel, C.)**

To create the Paulding County Municipal Court in Paulding on January 1, 2019, to establish one full-time judgeship in that court, to provide for

the nomination of the judge by petition only, to abolish the Paulding County County Court on that date, to designate the Paulding County Clerk of Courts as the clerk of the Paulding County Municipal Court, and to provide for the election for the Paulding County Municipal Court of one full-time judge in 2018.

Wednesday, Sept. 20

HB 235

EDUCATION PLAN (Gavarone, T.)

Regarding procedures for approval or disapproval of the state education plan for the federal Every Student Succeeds Act.

Wednesday, Sept. 20

HB 252

AWARENESS MONTH (Huffman, S.)

To designate the month of January as "Blood Donor Awareness Month."

Wednesday, Sept. 20

RE-REFERRED

HB 193

FLU VACCINES (Hagan, C.)

To prohibit an employer from taking an adverse employment action against a person who has not been or will not be vaccinated against influenza.

REFERRED

Community & Family Advancement

HB 340

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE (Young, R.)

Regarding the release of information concerning public and medical assistance recipients.

Economic Development, Commerce & Labor

HB 339

RESIDENTIAL CONTRACTORS (Schaffer, T., Hagan, C.)

To license residential only construction contractors and to make changes to the law regulating specialty construction contractors.

Education & Career Readiness

HB 338

SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS (Ginter, T.)
Regarding medical examinations for school bus drivers.

Government Accountability & Oversight

HB 341

PUBLIC RECORDS (Huffman, S., Cera, J.)
To include judges as individuals whose residential and familial information is exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Law, and whose addresses public offices, upon request, must redact from records available to the general public on the internet.

HB 342

TAX LEVIES (Merrin, D.)
To permit local tax-related proposals to appear only on general and primary election ballots and not on an August special election ballot and to modify the information conveyed in election notices and ballot language for property tax levies.

Health

HB 345

DISEASE CURES (Butler, J.)
To adopt the Solemn Covenant of the States to award prizes for curing diseases.

Transportation & Public Safety

HB 344

LICENSE PLATE (Hambley, S., Kick, D.)
To create the "Medina County" license plate.

Ways & Means

HB 337

COLLEGE TEXTBOOKS (Duffey, M.)
To exempt from sales and use tax textbooks purchased by post-secondary students.

HB 343

PROPERTY VALUES (Merrin, D.)
To require local governments that contest property values to formally pass an authorizing resolution for each contest and to notify property owners.

7/23/2018

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Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

Ohio Report, Tuesday, September 19, 2017

1 message

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OHIO REPORT TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

**Bill Shifting Self-Defense Burden Promoted as Constituent-Driven, But
Draws Skepticism**

Panel Adopts New Plan To Exempt OVEC Affiliates From Cost Recovery

Kasich, Other Governors Urge Opposition To Latest Health Care Proposal

**Waste Industry Urges Move-Over Protections; Distracted Driving Bill
Backed**

Builders, Businesses Seek Permissive Prevailing Wage

House Delves Into Effort To End Tax Code 'Marriage Penalty'

Elder Abuse Prevention Bill Continues To Garner Support In Senate

Fantasy Sports Industry Pushes Regulatory Bill

**Legislators Push For New Council To Provide Long-Term State Fiscal
Forecasts**

Legislation Would Address High Court Ruling On Bindovers

Capitol Scene: Snitchler Joins API; Hollabaugh To Shumaker

Attorney General's Opinion

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Senate Committee Hearings

Insurance & Financial Institutions

Judiciary

Local Government, Public Safety & Veterans Affairs

Finance

House Committee Hearings

Ways & Means

Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development

Energy & Natural Resources

Public Utilities

Criminal Justice

Economic Development, Commerce & Labor

Federalism & Interstate Relations

ACTIVITY REPORTS

House

Senate

CALENDARS

Day Planner

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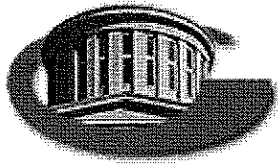
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Daily Activity Planner for Wednesday, September 20

Legislative Committees

House Transportation & Public Safety (Committee Record) (Chr. Green, D., 644-6034), Rm. 017, 9 a.m.

HBLICENSE PLATE (Roegner, K.) To create the "Hudson City Schools" license plate. (1st Hearing-All 264 testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HBLICENSE PLATE (Roegner, K.) To create the "Stow-Munroe Falls City Schools" license plate. (1st 265 Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HBROAD NAMING (Cera, J.) To designate a portion of State Route 7 in Belmont County as the "Ohio Valley 308 Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway." (1st Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

HBROAD NAMING (Johnson, T.) To designate a portion of State Route 348 in Scioto County as the "Roy 311 Rogers Happy Trails Highway." (1st Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

HBLICENSE PLATE (Koehler, K., Green, D.) To create the "Lions Club" license plate. (1st Hearing-All 321 testimony-Possible vote)

HBROAD NAMING (Ashford, M., Sheehy, M.) To designate a portion of Interstate Route 75 in Lucas County 324 as the "Toledo Firefighters J. Dickman and S. Machcinski Memorial Highway." (1st Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

HRHYPERLOOP (Hughes, J.) To express support for the Hyperloop Transportation Initiative. (1st Hearing- 236 Sponsor)

HBROAD NAMING (Rogers, J.) To designate a portion of State Route 91 in Willoughby as the "Patrolman 330 Jason Gresko Memorial Highway." (1st Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

HBSPEED LIMITS (Boccieri, J.) To specify that a speed limit becomes effective at a reasonable distance from 219 the appropriate sign giving notice of the speed limit. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible substitute)

HBREGIONAL AIRPORTS (Butler, J., Zeltwanger, P.) To create the Major Air Hub Council, to require the 256 Council to construct two commercial service airports, one in Fayette County and one in Portage County, and to create the Southern Ohio Airport Authority and the Northern Ohio Airport Authority to operate the airports. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HBMOTORCYCLE PROTECTION (Goodman, W.) To permit a person to wear earplugs for hearing 280 protection while operating a motorcycle. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HBVEHICLE TITLES (Hagan, C.) To allow owners of a motor vehicle, watercraft, or outboard motor who 297 have joint ownership with right of survivorship to transfer title through a transfer-on-death designation. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

House Health (Committee Record) (Chr. Huffman, S., 466-8114), Rm. 121, 9 a.m.

HBMEDICAL RECORDS (Schuring, K.) To modify the laws governing access to a patient's medical records. 172 (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HBDENTISTRY (Gavarone, T., DeVitis, T.) To authorize the provision of dental services through teledentistry, **184** to require a proposal for creation of a primary care dental student component of the Choose Ohio First Scholarship Program, and to make other changes to the laws governing the practices of dentistry and dental hygiene. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

HBABORTION (LaTourette, S., Merrin, D.) To prohibit a person from performing, inducing, or attempting to **214** perform or induce an abortion on a pregnant woman who is seeking the abortion because an unborn child has or may have Down Syndrome. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HBADMITTING PRIVILEGES (Gavarone, T.) To prohibit a physician from being required to secure a **273** maintenance of certification as a condition of obtaining licensure, reimbursement, or employment or obtaining admitting privileges or surgical privileges at a hospital or health care facility. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HBDIABETES REGISTRY (Barnes, J.) To establish the Ohio Diabetes Registry. (1st Hearing-Sponsor) **241**

Senate Ways & Means (*Committee Record*) (Chr. Eklund, J., 644-7718), South Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

SB BUSINESS INCOME (Peterson, B.) To provide that wages and guaranteed payments paid by a professional **186** employer organization to the owner of a pass-through entity that has contracted with the organization may be considered business income. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB FUEL TAX (Coley, B.) To levy an additional registration tax on passenger cars, noncommercial motor **113** vehicles, and commercial cars and trucks beginning on January 1, 2020; to authorize a per-gallon motor fuel retail price reduction for consumers that is equal to the state per-gallon motor fuel tax of \$.28; and to exempt each gallon of motor fuel that is sold at the reduced retail price from the state motor fuel tax. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HBTIF DISTRICTS (Cupp, R.) To require reimbursement of certain township fire and emergency medical **69** service levy revenue forgone because of the creation of a municipal tax increment financing district. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

House Finance (*Committee Record*) (Chr. Smith, R., 466-1366), Rm. 313, 9:30 a.m.

HBDATAOHIO BOARD (Duffey, M., Hagan, C.) To create the DataOhio Board, to specify requirements for **3** posting public records online, to require the Auditor of State to adopt rules regarding a uniform accounting system for public offices, to establish an online catalog of public data at data.ohio.gov, to establish the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program, and to make appropriations. (1st Hearing-All testimony)

HBCEMETERY REGISTRATION (Stein, D.) To modify duties of the Division of Real Estate in the **168** Department of Commerce regarding cemetery registration, to specify cemetery owners must reasonably maintain cemeteries, to establish the Cemetery Grant Program, and to make an appropriation. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HBROADBAND EXPANSION (Carfagna, R.) To establish the residential broadband expansion program **281** within the Development Services Agency to award matching grants for last mile broadband expansion in municipal corporations and townships and to make an appropriation. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

House State & Local Government (*Committee Record*) (Chr. Anielski, M., 644-6041), Rm. 122, 9:30 a.m.

SB DAY DESIGNATION (Yuko, K.) To designate July 8 as "Harrison Dillard Day." (5th Hearing-All **62** testimony-Possible vote)

HBJOHN GLENN HOME (Hill, B., Rosenberger, C.) To require the Ohio History Connection to designate **279** John Glenn's childhood home as a state historic site. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HBGVERNMENT INSURANCE (Wiggam, S.) To authorize counties, townships, and municipal **291** corporations to purchase an employee dishonesty and faithful performance of duty insurance policy, instead of a bond, for protection from loss due to the fraudulent or dishonest actions of, and the failure to perform a duty prescribed by law by, an officer, official, employee, or appointee for which a bond is required by law. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HBIDENTIFICATION CARDS (Barnes, J.) To provide that any nondriver identification card that is issued to **300**a resident of Ohio who is permanently disabled must be issued without an expiration date. (1st Hearing-Sponsor-Possible substitute)

HBMONTH DESIGNATION (Gonzales, A.) To designate September as "We Card Month." (1st Hearing-**307**Sponsor)

HBDAY DESIGNATION (Arndt, S.) To designate October 6 as "S.M.A.R.T. Parent Day." (1st Hearing-**315**Sponsor)

HBSTATE PET (Lanese, L.) To designate a shelter pet as Ohio's official pet. (1st Hearing-Sponsor) **319**

HBGARBAGE FEES (Patterson, J.) To authorize all municipal corporations that charge a garbage collection **323**fee to certify unpaid amounts to the county auditor, who must enter the fees on the property tax list to be collected in the same manner as real property taxes. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB DAY DESIGNATION (Hackett, B.) To designate the twenty-fifth day of May as "Ohio National Missing **86** Children's Day." (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Senate Government Oversight & Reform (*Committee Record*) (Chr. Coley, B., 466-8072), Finance Hearing Rm., 9:45 a.m.

- Confirmation hearing on the governor's appointments of Edward Nurre to the Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors, Scott Crislip to the Ski Tramway Board, and Abass Bangura, Comfort Cole-Keneh, Rosarie Ifedi, Ed.D, Eugenie Kirenga, Tariq Mohamed and Ibrahima Sow to the New African Immigrants Commission.

SB LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES (LaRose, F.) To automatically dissolve a limited liability company **179**under certain circumstances and to authorize the Secretary of State to implement an electronic notification system to alert a person if a business name containing a specific word has been registered. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HREAL ESTATE APPRAISERS (Dever, J.) To change the definition of "appraisal" for purposes of the Real **213**Estate Appraiser Licensing Law, to make changes to certain procedures and the exceptions to licensure under that law, to regulate appraisal management companies, and to declare an emergency. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

SB COUNTY INVESTMENTS (Wilson, S.) To modify the qualifications regarding notes eligible for **163**investment of county inactive moneys. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

SB LEGAL MATERIALS (Skindell, M., Eklund, J.) To adopt the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act. (4th **139**Hearing-All testimony)

SB DISABILITIES COUNCIL (Burke, D.) To abolish the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities **144**Commission, Consumer Advisory Committee, and Governor's Council on People with Disabilities and to establish a state rehabilitation services council known as the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Council. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

House Insurance (*Committee Record*) (Chr. Brinkman, T., 644-6886), Rm. 116, 10 a.m.

HBAUTO INSURANCE (Antani, N.) To create a study committee to author a report making recommendations **284**about ways to reduce the cost of insurance premiums among commercial drivers ages eighteen to twenty-five. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HBLICENSE FEES (Barnes, J., Greenspan, D.) To prohibit the imposition of driver's license and temporary **336**instruction permit reinstatement fees in specified circumstances and to name this act the Reinstatement Fee Amnesty Initiative. (1st Hearing-Sponsor-Possible substitute)

House Government Accountability & Oversight (*Committee Record*) (Chr. Blessing, L., 466-9091), Rm. 114, 10:30 a.m.

HB POLITICAL SUBDIVISION SPENDING (Schuring, K., Greenspan, D.) Regarding use of credit cards 312 and debit cards by political subdivisions. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HCRANTI-SEMITISM (Thompson, A., Greenspan, D.) To condemn the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions 10 movement and increasing incidents of anti-Semitism. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB VOTER ID (Greenspan, D.) To specify that a concealed handgun license qualifies as photo identification 222 for voting purposes. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

House Higher Education & Workforce Development (Committee Record) (Chr. Duffey, M., 644-6030), Rm. 115, 11 a.m.

HBTENURED FACULTY (Young, R.) To require permanently tenured state university or college faculty 66 members to teach at least three credit hours of undergraduate courses per semester. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible substitute)

HBCOLLEGE ADMISSIONS (Brenner, A.) To prohibit institutions of higher education from requiring 217 students to disclose disciplinary actions on their applications for admission. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HBSUMMER JOBS (Barnes, J.) To require the Director of Development Services to establish a youth summer 203 jobs pledging initiative to increase access to summer employment opportunities for high school and college youth. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible amendments)

HBWORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (Reineke, B., Cupp, R.) To revise the laws governing the state's 166 workforce development system, programs that may be offered by primary and secondary schools, certificates of qualification for employment, and the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency, and to designate the first week of May as In-Demand Jobs Week. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-7505), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.

House Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 1:30 p.m.

Senate Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.

House Civil Justice (Committee Record) (Chr. Butler, J., 644-6008), Rm. 121, 2:30 p.m. or after session

HBPOLITICAL SUBDIVISION LIABILITY (Ingram, C.) To eliminate certain defenses to political 267 subdivision liability for an employee's negligent operation of a motor vehicle and to reduce damages recoverable against a political subdivision in such actions by the contributory fault of the plaintiff or other parties. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HBACKCESSIBILITY LAWS (McColley, R., Rezabek, J.) To authorize an alleged aggrieved party to provide a 271 notice of an alleged accessibility law violation in advance of filing a civil action and to establish the circumstances under which an alleged aggrieved party is entitled to attorney's fees in a civil action based on the violation. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

House Aging & Long Term Care (Committee Record) (Chr. Arndt, S., 644-6011), Rm. 122, 2:30 p.m. or after session

HBPALLIATIVE CARE (LaTourette, S.) To create the Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary 286 Council, to establish the Palliative Care Consumer and Professional Information and Education Program, and to require health care facilities to identify patients and residents who could benefit from palliative care. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Senate Energy & Natural Resources (Committee Record) (Chr. Balderson, T., 466-8076), Finance Hearing Rm., 2:30 p.m. or after session

SR SOO LOCKS (Dolan, M., LaRose, F.) To encourage the President and the Congress of the United States and 59 the United States Office of Management and Budget to support plans to upgrade the Soo Locks at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, and encourage the United States Army Corps of Engineers to take expeditious action in preparing an Economic Reevaluation Report. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

SB LAKE ERIE (Skindell, M., Eklund, J.) To authorize the creation of a special improvement district to **51** facilitate Lake Erie shoreline improvement. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

SB BRINE SALES (Dolan, M., Skindell, M.) To establish conditions and requirements for the sale of brine **165** from certain oil or gas operations as a commodity and to exempt such a commodity from requirements otherwise applicable to brine. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

House Community & Family Advancement (*Committee Record*) (Chr. Ginter, T., 466-8022), Rm. 114, 3 p.m.

HB SNAP (Henne, M., McColley, R.) Regarding eligibility and benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition **119** Assistance program and the Medicaid program. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute)

HB APPLICANT INFORMATION (Dever, J.) To regulate the collection, use, and retention of certain **187** information obtained from an applicant during the employee selection process. (3rd Hearing-Opponent)

HB GRANTS DEPARTMENT (Barnes, J.) To create the Department of Grants and Philanthropic Gestures. **204** (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB PARENTAL RIGHTS (Gonzales, A., Rezabek, J.) To generally prohibit a person's blindness from being **309** used to deny or limit custody, parenting time, visitation, adoption, or service as a guardian or foster caregiver, regarding a minor. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Senate Education (*Committee Record*) (Chr. Lehner, P., 466-4538), South Hearing Rm., 3 p.m. or after session

SB REDUCED PRICE MEALS (Yuko, K.) To establish the Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act to **172** require schools to provide certain services to students who are eligible for free or reduced price meals. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB COMPUTER SCIENCE (Carfagna, R., Duffey, M.) With regard to academic content standards and **170** curriculum requirements for computer science; to revise educator qualifications regarding computer science; and to authorize public schools to establish computer science and technology funds. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB SCHOOL SECLUSION (Tavares, C.) To prohibit the use of seclusion on students in public schools. (1st **104** Hearing-Sponsor)

SB MONTH DESIGNATION (Tavares, C.) To designate the month of October as "Ohio Principals Month." **105** (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

House Armed Services, Veterans Affairs & Homeland Security (*Committee Record*) (Chr. Johnson, T., 466-2124), Rm. 116, 4 p.m. or after session

SCRMISILE DEFENSE (O'Brien, S., Eklund, J.) A resolution to urge the United States Missile Defense **8** Agency to select Camp Ravenna Joint Military Training Center in Ravenna, Ohio, as the preferred site for a future east coast Missile Defense system. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB DOG REGISTRATIONS (Goodman, W.) To exempt certain disabled veterans from paying a dog **295** registration fee when application is made to the county auditor that includes proof that the dog is an assistance dog. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB VETERANS WAIVER (Retherford, W., Brenner, A.) To establish the Veterans Fee Waiver Program. (2nd **238** Hearing-Proponent)

Agency Calendar

Law Enforcement Gateway Advisory Group, BCI, 1560 State Route 56 SW, London, 10 a.m. (The Steering Committee meets afterward at about 11 a.m.)

State Personnel Board of Review, 65 E. State St., 12th Fl., Columbus, 10 a.m.

Waterways Safety Council, 3rd Fl., Building C, 2045 Morse Rd., Columbus, 10 a.m.

Arts Council, 33rd Fl., 30 E. Broad St., Columbus, 12:30 p.m. (Poet Laureate Committee)

Event Planner

Rep. Brian Hill (R-Zanesville) and Rep. Al Landis (R-Dover) fundraiser, OHROC, 21 W. Broad Street, Floor 7, Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$350 to Brian D. Hill for State Representative and/or Friends for Allen Landis)

Sen. Cliff Hite (R-Findlay), medical professionals news conference on clean energy, Ladies Gallery, Statehouse, Columbus, 1 p.m.

Rep. Andy Thompson (R-Marietta) and Rep. Wes Goodman (R-Cardington) fundraiser, The Keep, 50 W. Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$350 to Andy Thompson for State Representative and/or Friends of Wes Goodman)

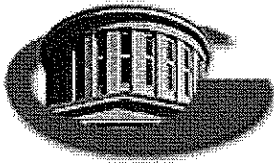
Rep. Nickie Antonio (D-Lakewood) fundraiser, Club 185, 185 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Sponsor levels: Sponsor \$1000, Host \$500, Friend \$350 to Friends of Nickie J. Antonio)

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Senate Activity for Tuesday, September 19, 2017

INTRODUCED

SB AWARENESS WEEK (Tavares, C.) To designate the last week of September as "Diaper Need Awareness **192**Week." En. 5.50

SB LONG-TERM CARE (Tavares, C.) To create a long-term care inspection committee. En. 103.85, 103.86, **193**103.87, and 103.88

SB VEHICLE TOWING (Terhar, L.) To require only one notice to be sent to a vehicle owner and any known **194**lienholder after a vehicle is towed from a private tow-away zone. Am. 4505.101, 4513.601, and 4513.611

SB DOGS LAW (Beagle, B.) To revise provisions of the Dogs Law governing nuisance, dangerous, and vicious **195**dogs, to revise enforcement of that Law, and to establish a notification process regarding complaints of certain violations of that Law. Am. 109.73, 955.11, 955.12, 955.22, 955.222, 955.44, 955.54, and 955.99 and to enact sections 955.13, 955.223, 955.224, 955.225, and 955.60

SB BULLYING (Williams, S.) To create the offense of aggravated bullying, a third-degree misdemeanor. Am. **196**2903.23

SB BULLYING (Williams, S.) To require a tiered disciplinary procedure for harassment, intimidation, or **197**bullying in school; to require annual student instruction about preventing such acts; and to create the offense of aggravated bullying as a third-degree misdemeanor. Am. 3313.666 and to enact section 2903.23

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Insurance & Financial Institutions

HBMORTGAGE LENDING (Blessing, L.) To create the Ohio Residential Mortgage Lending Act for the **199**purpose of regulating all non-depository lending secured by residential real estate and to limit the application of the current Mortgage Loan Law to unsecured loans and loans secured by other than residential real estate. (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Rep. Louis Blessing (R-Cincinnati) described his bill as an effort to streamline and clarify mortgage regulations to achieve "greater conformity with federal guidelines and eliminating confusion."

"Both mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers would license..., eliminating the mortgage banker exemption and giving examination and enforcement authority to the Department of Financial Institutions over all mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers," he said.

"This legislation will be good for the state of Ohio, the mortgage lending industry, and the consumers they serve because it brings clarity to the statute and applies the same standards to all non-depository lenders when financing a consumer's most precious asset: their home," he said.

HB 52 DEED SOLICITATION (Rezabek, J.) To regulate the solicitation of certain deeds. (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Rep. Jeff Rezabek (R-Clayton) said many Ohio homeowners are receiving mailed notices from out of state companies stating they are required to have a copy of their deed and offering to provide one for an \$80-\$90 fee.

These companies, he said, seek to profit off property owners who are unaware that they can obtain a copy of the deed from their county recorder for typically less than a dollar. Under the bill, which he noted passed the House with no opposition, those companies would face a fine that would increase with each violation.

"This bill boils down to an additional consumer protection and is an attempt at eliminating the bad actors who are preying on unsuspecting and unaware individuals," Rep. Rezabek said.

SB 120 DEBT ADJUSTING (Eklund, J.) Regarding debt adjusting (CONTINUED; 2nd Hearing-Proponent)

David Leuthold, speaking for the American Fair Credit Council, described his own experience being buried in debt and outlined the role debt settlement companies play in that area.

"There is a feeling of helplessness and desperation when you are in a position where you can no longer repay the debts you owe," he said.

He said debt settlement can be a helpful route for debtors, especially since credit counseling can be reserved only for those who have the means to repay the entire debt with interest and bankruptcy is often avoided due to its stigma and the mark it leaves on one's credit.

"SB120 ensures that Ohio residents can utilize debt settlement services upon the effective date of the legislation," Mr. Leuthold said. "Rather than look to create a complex regulatory scheme...we are simply amending current law to allow for debt settlement in a similar manner as credit counseling."

SB 121 MAMMOGRAM COVERAGE (Eklund, J.) To include tomosynthesis as part of required screening mammography benefits under health insurance policies. (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Sen. John Eklund (R-Chardon) stressed that early detection for breast cancer is key. To that end, his bill would include tomosynthesis - in which multiple low-dose images of the breast are taken and combined into a 3D data set - as part of the screening mammography benefits required of health insurance policies.

"Some insurance providers are currently covering tomosynthesis in Ohio but there are still those denying the coverage stating that the reason is because this technology is 'investigational,'" Sen. Eklund said.

He said current guidelines from the National Comprehensive Cancer Network and the American College of Radiology have determined the process, used in conjunction with mammography, is no longer investigational in nature.

"Clinical use of tomosynthesis in women undergoing screening mammography has led to increased cancer detection rate while simultaneously decreasing recall rates," Sen. Eklund said.

Sen. Bob Hackett (R-London) inquired about the level of flexibility providers would have under the bill's provisions. Would the legislation, he asked, permit providers to require preauthorization for 3D screenings.

"I'm not aware of any situation to require a preauthorization for breast cancer screening mechanism," Sen. Eklund replied.

"So do you think 2D mammograms will become obsolete and everyone will be using 3D, which are more expensive?" Sen. Hackett asked. He further questioned: Why not reserve the more expensive screening for

patients in which a 2D mammogram found something that warrants further analysis or there are contributing factors like family history?

"Creating two steps when one is sufficient is a cost increasing and in my view ill-advised in most circumstances," Sen. Eklund responded. "One of the points for tomosynthesis is to avoid the issue of call backs. The point is to prevent that sort of double testing."

As far as 3D mammograms replacing its 2D counterpart someday, Sen. Eklund said, "My transistor radio doesn't work so well anymore either. So if they went away that's kind of how things go."

Responding to Sen. Sandra Williams (D-Cleveland), Sen. Eklund said that at a future date he will provide the committee with information on the differential between providers' added up front cost in covering the procedures versus their projected savings due to catching the cancer earlier.

SB 169 TRAVEL INSURANCE (Wilson, S.) To oversee the sale of travel insurance. (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Sen. Steve Wilson (R-Maineville) said his bill mirrors a model act from the National Conference of Insurance Legislators and licensing standards adopted by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

"Specifically, Senate Bill 169 will resolve problems of regulatory inconsistencies that face the travel insurance providers and travel agents by updating the licensing process to reflect today's current marketplace operations," he said. "Additionally, the bill will provide consumer protections by requiring new, clearer accountability and notice provisions with respect to who is responsible for the sale of travel insurance."

Forty-seven other states have adopted such laws, according to the sponsor.

Among the bill's components is language:

-Defining the difference between travel insurance and longer-term medical insurance coverage for those spending six months or more overseas.

-Permitting the superintendent of insurance to issue limited lines travel insurance licenses to qualified individuals and business entities and enabling the superintendent to take action to address violations.

-Restricting the issuance of travel insurance under those licenses to certain conditions.

-Elaborating on permissible and impermissible activities for travel retailers offering such insurance.

Subscribers Note: For full testimony see the committee's website under Sept. 19.

Judiciary

HB STRUCTURED SETTLEMENTS (Dever, J.) Relative to transfers of structured settlement payment **223** rights. (CONTINUED; 2nd Hearing-Proponent)

The legislation has the support of both the Ohio Association for Justice and the Ohio Judicial Conference, the groups said in testimony.

In written testimony on behalf of the OJC, Shawn Welch said the measure will address the concerns of some of the state's probate judges.

"The changes proposed to structured settlement law are not drastic, but they do address some of the concerns Ohio's probate judges have expressed over difficulty in determining what is in the best interests of the transferor," he said.

John Van Doorn, director of government affairs at the OAJ, said in written testimony the legislation "strikes the right balance between preserving our client's assets while providing our client with a reasonable amount of flexibility to alter their settlement."

Earl Nesbitt, executive director of the National Association of Settlement Purchasers, said the measure is the result of collaboration between several groups.

"While the revisions appear extensive, it is our belief that Ohio judges and practitioners will find that the proposed legislation is not drastically different from current procedures," he said.

Eric Vaughn, executive director of the National Structured Settlements Trade Association, also provided written testimony in support of the bill.

HB VOYEURISM (Anielski, M.) To include an impaired person as a potential victim of voyeurism, to include **68** conduct involving an impaired person within the offenses of pandering obscenity involving a minor, pandering sexually oriented matter involving a minor, and illegal use of a minor in a nudity-oriented material or performance, and to prohibit an owner, operator, administrator, or employee of a care facility from creating, sharing, reproducing, or publishing any image of a care facility resident without a proper purpose and without prior written consent from the resident. (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

The legislation is designed to protect elderly and disabled Ohioans, sponsoring Rep. Marlene Anielski (R-Walton Hills) said.

"It alters the revised code to include any conduct involving an impaired person equally with the following offenses: pandering obscenity involving a minor, pandering sexually oriented matter involving a minor and illegal use of a minor in a nudity-oriented material or performance. Impaired person means a person whose ability to resist or consent is substantially impaired because of a mental or physical condition or because of advanced age," she said.

"The offender must know or have reasonable cause to believe that the other person's ability to resist or consent is substantially impaired because of a mental or physical condition, such as dementia or Alzheimer's, or because of advanced age."

Under the bill, violation of the law would be a fourth-degree felony. Rep. Anielski said the measure is needed because of a case in Cuyahoga County in which elderly individuals were victims of voyeurism and the offender could only be prosecuted for misdemeanors.

HB MONTH DESIGNATION (Sykes, E., Perales, R.) To designate February as "Teen Dating Violence **94** Awareness Month." (CONTINUED; 2nd Hearing-Proponent)

The legislation received the support of Barry Sheets, legislative liaison of the Ohio Adolescent Health Association.

"Our children need a consistent message of risk avoidance and character education as they navigate through all of the pressures youth face today," he said.

Lisa Carroll of Love Without Hurt said the legislation can help to highlight the issue of teen dating violence.

"Your endorsement of this legislation is also honoring and recognizing those teens that have touched my life by sharing their personal stories, validating the importance of this education, not only for themselves, but their moms as well," she said.

SB 125 CHILD SUPPORT (Beagle, B.) To make changes to the laws governing child support. (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Sponsoring Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) said the work on the bill began with former Sen. Shannon Jones in the last General Assembly.

He told the committee that he believes "it is vital to our great state to continue to pursue this legislation."

"Senate Bill 125 will offer much needed revisions to Ohio's child support guidelines. These new guidelines will modify child support obligations for families throughout Ohio, affecting more than one million children," he said. "The proposed child support guidelines will include multiple statutes and will incorporate various materials to calculate the proposed obligations. The suggested revisions in this legislation are sensible, comprehensive, up-to-date, and efficient."

Among the changes, the bill would update the economic tables, make adjustments for parenting time, modernize health insurance and cash medical provisions, and make changes to the child care credit.

SB ELDER FRAUD (Wilson, S.) To develop best practices and educational opportunities to combat elder fraud **158** and exploitation and to fine and require full restitution from offenders who are found guilty of certain fraud-related crimes against the elderly. (CONTINUED (See separate story); 3rd Hearing-All testimony)

SB FIREARM LAWS (Uecker, J., Hottinger, J.) To assign to the prosecution the burden of disproving a self-**180** defense or related claim, to expand the locations at which a person has no duty to retreat before using force under both civil and criminal law, and to modify the Concealed Handgun Licensing Law regarding a licensee's duty to keep the licensee's hands in plain sight, the penalties for illegally carrying a concealed firearm or improperly handling firearms in a motor vehicle, and the posting of warning signs regarding the possession of weapons on specified premises. (CONTINUED (See separate story); 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB JUVENILE BINDOVERS (Thomas, C.) To eliminate mandatory bindovers and reverse bindovers, and **64** modify the rules and procedures regarding a discretionary bindover, of an alleged juvenile offender from a juvenile court to a criminal court. (CONTINUED-AMENDED (See separate story); 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Governor's Appointments: The committee voted unanimously to recommend full Senate approval of William Patmon, III to the Civil Rights Commission.

Subscriber's Note: For full written testimony, see the [committee's website](#) under Sept. 19.

Local Government, Public Safety & Veterans Affairs

HBCOURT JURISDICTIONS (Craig, H., Seitz, B.) To specify the jurisdiction of municipal and county courts **125** over municipal traffic ordinances and to establish requirements governing fines, fees, or other charges for traffic violations and infractions imposed by a municipal corporation that does not have the authority to establish a mayor's court. (CONTINUED; 2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible amendments)

Lori M. Tyack, clerk of the Franklin County Municipal Court, described the issues her court has faced since 2013 when the legislature passed a bill that eliminated mayor's courts with villages with populations of less than 200.

There is inconsistency in record keeping, processes and fines associated with traffic violations, she said.

"This legislation is smart and timely as it limits the maximum fines and costs that can be assessed using the schedule of fines and costs established by local municipal and county courts in Ohio," she said. "It also preserves the defendant's right to an appeal."

HBDRIVER'S LICENSES (Hambley, S., Rogers, J.) To authorize the issuance of an enhanced driver's license, **60** enhanced commercial driver's license, and enhanced identification card to facilitate land and sea border crossings between the United States and Canada and Mexico, pursuant to an agreement with the United States Department of Homeland Security. (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

An enhanced driver's license that is validated by an RFID chip reader would "not only would it make travel into Canada and Mexico for Ohioans quicker, but it would do so in a secure manner," Rep. Steve Hambley (R-Brunswick) said in sponsor testimony.

The special license, which would allow Ohioans to cross road borders between the U.S. and Canada or Mexico, would cost \$25 more than a regular license, he said. That's still cheaper than a passport or passport card.

Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Vermont and Washington have all passed similar legislation to issues enhanced driver's licenses, Rep. Hambley added.

He said the bill also impacts commercial truck drivers who are only permitted to drive for a certain number of hours each day and would be benefitted by quicker identification at borders.

"In addition to the time constraints that a commercial driver is bound to, an EDL reduces the number of identification documents that Ohio truck drivers must carry with them during their daily travels," he said. "Everyday Ohio motorists who frequent to Canada for business or recreation would also benefit from this convenience of not having to carry a passport."

Joint sponsor Rep. John Rogers (D-Mentor-on-the-Lake) estimated that about 640,000 Ohio drivers would register for an EDL based on the uptake in other states that have passed such laws.

HBRECORDS EXEMPTION (Hambley, S., Rezabek, J.) To exempt from the Public Records Law certain **§** information concerning a minor that is included in a record related to a traffic accident involving a school vehicle in which the minor was an occupant at the time of the accident. (CONTINUED; 3rd Hearing-All testimony)

Dennis Hetzel, executive director of the Ohio News Media Association, opposed the measure, saying closing off school bus accident records would set a bad precedent for open records laws.

"I hope we all agree that in our open records laws, exemptions should be rare and, when they are needed, written as narrowly as possible," he said. "There should be documentation or actual evidence of a problem, as well as an exploration of other alternatives, before we create new exemptions. If all that is required is a preference that certain information not be released, we are in trouble."

Having access to the names of students on buses allows reporters to dig deeper into what caused the accident, learn more about busing procedures and reach out to parents for interviews, Mr. Hetzel said.

"(Sponsor) testimony stated that there were more than 1,500 school bus accidents in Ohio during 2014 and 2015 suggested to me as a former editor that there should be more reporting, not less, about school-bus accidents," he said. "Again, good journalism requires access to information. Journalists also know that it's not enough to cite government statistics. Meaningful stories must be about real people to help citizens understand what's at stake."

He also countered previous proponent testimony that suggested student names should be kept secret because child predators could use the information to stalk their potential victims.

"Given multiple other sources of such information, a police accident report is one of the last and riskiest places a predator is likely to go," Mr. Hetzel said. "It is particularly unlikely that a child predator would stroll into a police station and seek a record under the scrutiny of police and cameras. Nor would a predator send a traceable email asking for a report. We are aware of no documented cases in which a predator accessed accident reports available on the internet for such purposes either."

HBDISTRACTED DRIVING (Hughes, J., Seitz, B.) To establish an enhanced penalty for committing a **95** moving violation while distracted if the distraction is the apparent cause of the violation and to reenact **§** provisions of law that specified that certain electronic wireless communications device violations were allied offenses of similar import. (CONTINUED (See separate story); 2nd Hearing-Proponent)

SB WASTE COLLECTION VEHICLES (LaRose, E.) To require motor vehicle operators to take certain **127** actions upon approaching a stationary waste collection vehicle collecting refuse on a roadside.

■ (CONTINUED (See separate story); 2nd Hearing-Proponent)

SB ACCIDENT REPORTS (Kunze, S., Huffman, M.) To require an accident report to indicate whether any **148** person involved in the accident wishes to be contacted for commercial solicitation purposes, to prohibit any person from using the information contained in an accident report for those purposes with regard to a person who did not agree to be contacted, and to allow a person to submit emergency contact information upon vehicle registration for inclusion in the next of kin database. (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

The legislation was inspired by Ohioans who were barraged with calls to their cellphones and mail after having been in car accidents, Sen. Stephanie Kunze (R-Hilliard) said.

When police fill out reports, the bill requires them to ask individuals to consent or decline to be contacted by solicitors who will be able to find their personal information through government offices or websites as a result of the car accidents.

Another portion of the measure, which was also constituent driven, would allow drivers to submit vehicle identification numbers to the next of kin database to better assist law enforcement in notifying family of a vehicle accident, Sen. Matt Huffman (R-Lima) said.

Sen. Kunze told Sen. Vernon Sykes (D-Akron) that she and Sen. Huffman haven't yet inserted into the bill a penalty for businesses that solicit individuals even when the do-not-solicit box is checked on their traffic reports.

Chairman Sen. Joe Uecker (R-Loveland) questioned whether solicitations for lawyers, vehicle repair and medical services are burdens on society or simply annoying.

In the case of one of her constituents who was badly injured in a car accident, Sen. Kunze said her phone received dozens of phone calls from solicitors while she was still in the hospital, making it difficult for her husband to keep up with calls that were made to family and friends about her condition.

"I would say somebody who was just in an automobile accident doesn't need to have 15 or 20 phone calls the next morning from (solicitors)," Sen. Huffman added.

Governor's Appointments: Members recommended full Senate approval of the governor's appointments of Herbert Andre de la Porte and Philip Koster to the State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services; Phil Stammitti to the County Sheriffs' Standard Car-Marking and Uniform Commission; and Jack Lee-Harris, C. Thomas Pfeifer and Thomas Thompson to the Ohio Cemetery Dispute Resolution Commission.

Finance

HB FANTASY CONTESTS (Dever, J., McColley, R.) To grant the Ohio Casino Control Commission the **132** authority to regulate fantasy contests and to exempt fantasy contests from the gambling laws.

■ (CONTINUED (See separate story); 2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB REVENUE OBLIGATIONS (Blessing, L., Gavarone, T.) To authorize the Treasurer of State to issue **54** revenue obligations of the state for the purpose of making loans to qualifying public entities for their acquisition of permanent improvements through the Treasurer of State's purchase of public obligations of those qualifying entities. (CONTINUED; 3rd Hearing-Opponent & interested party)

Stan Uchida, vice president and commercial lender at Park National Bank, said the bill would cut into banks' ability to finance public debt and local projects.

"We would be competing against the State Treasurer and state government," he said. "I would envision this would become what we have in competing with STAR Ohio and STAR Ohio Plus. The Treasurer's office has no profit motive, no regulations, and can borrow at a lower rate than we could. This would lead to the Treasurer's

office offering lower rates than what we could. I believe this would be unfair competition - unfair government competition."

He said STAR Ohio has become a main competitor for banks, and it forces them to cut their margins. Other state lending programs, such as the Ohio Water Development Authority and the State Infrastructure Bank, he said, are generally making loans for economic development, and typically include a grant component.

Sen. John Eklund (R-Chardon) asked if he was aware of any institutions that measure how much lending small banks do with government entities.

Mr. Uchida said he wasn't aware of aggregate data but that his bank has about \$15 million to \$20 million in loans to local governments, mostly for small projects such as for police cruisers and ambulances.

Responding to Sen. Bill Coley (R-Liberty Twp.), Mr. Uchida said local banks also try to invest money in their communities to comply with federal policy.

"It's what community banks want to do. We are for the community," Mr. Uchida said. "For community banks, even those \$100k backhoe loans or the loans for EMS are a way for us to show that we have invested in our community."

Kent Scarrett, executive director of the Ohio Municipal League, wrote in support of the bill, saying it would ease the financial barriers local governments face in funding capital projects.

"One of the most prominent issues is that of providing the requisite matching funds when applying for grants for permanent improvement projects," he wrote. "HB54 offers a financing option that effectively removes that barrier, allowing our most financially-challenged municipalities the opportunity to make much-needed infrastructure improvements to their communities."


He said the reduction of the Local Government Fund has led to many capital projects being neglected because municipalities lack the funding to undertake them. The bill could open up another revenue stream, he said.

Subscribers Note: Full testimony is available on the [committee's website](#) under Sept. 19.

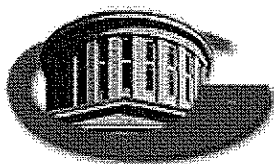
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Bill Shifting Self-Defense Burden Promoted as Constituent-Driven, But Draws Skepticism

The bill's chief sponsor on Tuesday called it a prudent update to state law that will strengthen 2nd Amendment rights and "modernize Ohio's self-defense laws."

However, the bill ([HB 228](#)) shifting the burden in self-defense cases and expanding instances in which there is no duty to retreat drew several questions from skeptical Democrats during its first hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The legislation, sponsored jointly by [Sen. Joe Uecker](#) (R-Loveland) and [Sen. Jay Hottinger](#) (R-Newark), also allows certain locations where concealed handgun license holders can now legally carry firearms to remove signage advising the public that weapons are restricted.

In addition, it alters the law on when a motorist has a duty to keep their hands in plain sight by adding to the statute "unless impractical" or "directed otherwise by a law enforcement officer."

"Under current law, when a person acts in self-defense, that person is guilty until their innocence is proven," [Sen. Uecker](#) said. "Our legislation changes the legal burden of proof by placing it on the prosecution and requiring the presentation of evidence contrary to the defendant's self-defense claim."

"This legislation seeks to modernize Ohio's self-defense laws," the lawmaker added. "Senate Bill 180 will protect 2nd Amendment rights while also addressing concerns raised by many of our constituents."

[Sen. Sean O'Brien](#) (D-Hubbard) said the current system already works well and questioned the rationale for shifting the burden of proof.

"If you have two people in the shooting and one is dead, there is only one person that is going to be able to give their side of the story," he said.

Under current law, [Sen. Uecker](#) said, violent offenders have more legal protections than victims.

The Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association is opposed to the provision that would shift the burden of proof to the prosecution in self-defense cases.

The legislation also seeks to address a 1978 Ohio Supreme Court decision. In *State v. Melchior*, the court created a three-part test for self-defense cases. The bill addresses the third and final point, which is a duty to retreat. Under the bill, that duty would be eliminated in most cases.

OPAA Executive Director John Murphy said the state's prosecutors also have concerns with that provision.

"It's served us well, and maybe it's saved some lives," he said following the meeting.

[Sen. Cecil Thomas](#) (D-Cincinnati) also questioned the provision.

"If an individual has an opportunity to walk away, that works fairly well," he said. "If he's armed, he can at some point just decide I'm going to pull my gun and shoot."

Sen. Uecker said the law was already expanded in the past to limit the areas in which one has a duty to retreat. The bill would expand that to any place where someone has a lawful right to be.

The bill also seeks to modify the duty to keep one's hands in plain sight in a motor vehicle if carrying a weapon. The requirement would remain "unless impractical" or "directed otherwise by a law enforcement officer."

But Sen. Thomas, a former police officer, said keeping one's hands in plain sight during a traffic stop is for the safety of law enforcement officials.

"Law enforcement has used this particular tool throughout history," he said.

Sen. Uecker said the provision is targeted at individuals with arm or shoulder injuries who are not capable of keeping their hands on the steering wheel.

Sen. Thomas said he never saw such a case in his career, but acknowledged that it is possible.

Panel Adopts New Plan To Exempt OVEC Affiliates From Cost Recovery

Affiliates would be exempted from receiving cost recovery for Ohio Valley Electric Corporation operations in a substitute bill taken under consideration by a House panel Tuesday.

The change was one of eight adjustments included in a substitute bill adopted by the House Public Utilities Committee based on feedback from interested party meetings that were held in June.

Still, with the 10th version of the controversial bill (HB 239) ready for debate, it remains unclear if and when it will be brought up for a committee vote. It's the second substitute for the bill, which has undergone numerous changes as sponsors work to make the measure more agreeable to critics who see it as a bailout. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 20, 2017)

Cosponsor Rep. Rick Carfagna (R-Westerville) said most of the changes bring the bill in line with a Senate companion bill (SB 155).

He labeled the affiliate adjustment - which essentially prohibits FirstEnergy Solutions from attaining cost recovery - is the most substantial charge.

"That provision gave a lot of people heartburn and after talking with the affiliate, with FES, I'm not sure even they were confident they'd be able to get recovery under that so (we thought) let's just take it out," Rep. Carfagna said in an interview.

The new language requires an electric distribution utility and any EDUs in the same holding company to bid all output from a national security generation resource into the wholesale market and prohibits the use of NSGR output for an EDU's SSO.

That's in contrast to prior versions which enabled an affiliate to receive cost recovery and to take the output from OVEC and apply it toward a standard service officer.

"We have effectively carved out FES from this bill," Rep. Carfagna said. "We'd been hearing from interested parties that it was legally cumbersome and because it is a nonbypassable rider, it would not get (federal) approval."

The sub bill also (Comp Doc):

- Strengthens language on the state's stance on affiliate divestiture, changing it from "encourage" to "support."
- Excludes "any return on investment in common equity" from the definition of prudently incurred costs to be recovered.
- Adds language stating that prudently incurred costs are to be subject to the nonbypassable rate mechanism and prudence review provisions of the bill.
- States the bill's provisions on cost recovery are not intended to render moot any issue not directly related to recovery of net impacts raised in an appeal before the Public Utilities Commission.
- Retains current law requiring the PUCO to direct a utility to remedy its market-rate offer standard service offer application.
- Requires the PUCO to exclude net impact cost recovery costs deemed imprudent and unreasonable.
- Requires the discontinuation of the cost recovery unless extended by the General Assembly compared to the previous version's language requiring the PUCO to provide for discontinuation by 2030 unless extended.

Kasich, Other Governors Urge Opposition To Latest Health Care Proposal

Gov. John Kasich is waging a fight to preserve Medicaid expansion on two fronts, addressing the threat of a budget veto override in the legislature to freeze new enrollment, and a renewed push to eliminate it in Congress.

On the federal front, Gov. Kasich again joined a bipartisan group of governors in opposing legislation designed to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act.

The 10 governors, which included Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper, a Democrat who has worked closely with Gov. Kasich on the issue, urged consideration for bipartisan an open approaches to the issue.

In a letter to congressional leaders, the governors pointed to hearings by the U.S. Senate's Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee on bipartisan efforts to stabilize the individual insurance market, and said those should continue.

They urged Congress not to consider an amendment that has gained steam this week to make significant changes to the health care law.

"We ask you to support bipartisan efforts to bring stability and affordability to our insurance markets," the governors wrote. "Legislation should receive consideration under regular order, including hearings in health committees and input from the appropriate health-related parties. Improvements to our health insurance markets should control costs, stabilize the market, and positively impact coverage and care of millions of Americans, including many who are dealing with mental illness, chronic health problems, and drug addiction."

The new effort in the U.S. Senate, led by Republican Sens. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, Bill Cassidy of Louisiana, Dean Heller of Nevada and Ron Johnson of Wisconsin, would repeal the individual and employer mandates, the medical device tax and increase states' ability to get waivers from regulations.

"Our bill levels out an inequity in funding. It allows flexibility that Obamacare would never embrace," Sen. Graham said in announcing the proposal. "It gives patients a voice in health care [that] they'll never have through a single-payer health care system."

The plan drew opposition from advocacy groups in Ohio Tuesday.